

Calling all lesbians!
The eighth annual Dyke March is set to rock the Mission this Saturday.
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30 years of SF LGBT Pride
Grand marshal interviews, really old photos, and more!
see second section



Festival finale
Last four days of SF Lesbian & Gay Film Fest.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

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Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971



Rick Genauer

by Katie Szymanski

Welcome to San Francisco, or, if you are a resident of the Bay Area, it's time to log off, get outside, and enjoy some of the numerous, diverse activities scheduled for Pride weekend.

As any local Pride guide will tell you, these next few days are saturated with both officially sponsored and community-organized lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender happenings, including the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, the legendary Dyke March, and the 30th annual Pride Parade

and Celebration. Pick up *Inside Pride* at local businesses around the city to get the scoop on events for leatherfolk, trannies, religious people, athletes, and youth.

This Saturday, June 24 is opening day for the official Pride Festival, and according to Pride Executive Director Teddy Witherington, the weekend is scheduled to go off without a hitch.

"We're not only in good shape, we're in great shape," Witherington told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Saturday's Pride Festival is a multicultural array of performances, vendor booths, and community spaces. The festival engulfs the city's Civic Center — from Market Street to Turk, between Van Ness and Leavenworth — and includes a market,

a kid-friendly family area, and a Faerie Freedom Village complete with gender-bent contests and a "no-talent" show.

Saturday's main stage at City Hall opens with an anti-hate crime presentation at noon. "Stand Against Hate," sponsored by Community United Against Violence, will feature speakers and performers and demand an end to anti-LGBT attacks. After defending your right to live without persecution, you're invited to celebrate your love life with a 1 p.m. commitment ceremony. The ceremony will be presided over by Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco), author of the state's new domestic partnership registry, and San Francisco

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State Supreme Court grants benefits to PWA

by Terry Beswick

The claims are coming! The claims are coming!

Executives at the Paul Revere Life Insurance Company must be sounding the alarm after a unanimous California Supreme Court ruling issued Monday, June 19. In a groundbreaking decision hailed by AIDS and disability rights groups throughout the state, the court declared that the company violated state law when it denied disability benefits to a Los Angeles-area man who was diagnosed with AIDS in 1994.

Mark Galanty, of Studio City, had tested positive on an HIV-antibody test prior to applying for a disability insurance policy in the fall of 1988. Prior to January 1, 1989, companies were not allowed to lawfully deny disability policies based on an HIV antibody test. Paul Revere awarded the insurance policy to Galanty in March 1989 without asking for an HIV-antibody test or for a copy of his medical records.

The company began paying benefits in 1994, when Galanty developed AIDS-related neuropathy — causing numbness and pain in his hands which forced him to quit work as a court reporter. But the company

ceased payments for about two years after discovering Galanty's earlier HIV test, falsely claiming that the unconfirmed test amounted to a pre-existing condition.

"I was trying to be responsible when I accepted a sales agent's pitch about this policy, and I was shocked when years later, my claims were rejected," Galanty, now 52, said after the decision was announced. "This ruling comes as a great relief to me today."

Overturning two lower court decisions with its 7-0 ruling in *Galanty v. The Paul Revere Life Insurance Company*, the court said that the company violated a California statute known as the "incontestability law," which creates a statute of limitations preventing companies from refusing to pay disability claims two years after granting a client a policy. The ruling makes no exception for companies that, after the two-year period has elapsed, uncover evidence that their client had tested positive on a diagnostic test taken before applying for the policy.

"In short, the incontestability law controls," wrote Justice Kathryn M. Werdegard for the court.

"This case makes clear that it isn't always the insurance customer that com-

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Senate passes hate crimes legislation

by Bob Roehr

Federal hate crimes legislation that includes gays and lesbians passed the first time that it came up for a recorded vote in the Senate, Tuesday, June 20. The margin of victory was a surprisingly strong 57-42.

"We went in this morning with 50 votes," said Winnie Stachelberg, political director of the Human Rights Campaign, "and never stopped working. Thousands of calls and faxes went into offices. It was an amazing effort on the part of the entire coalition" of civil rights, religious, and gay organizations.

The measure this year was called the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2000, with primary co-sponsorship by Senators Ted Kennedy (D-Massachusetts) and Gordon Smith (R-Oregon). It was adopted as an amendment to the appropriations bill for the Department of Defense.

The measure would add gender, sexual

orientation, and disability to protected classes under current federal law. It would offer legal grounds for federal assistance with these types of crimes where local authorities request it, or federal intervention when there

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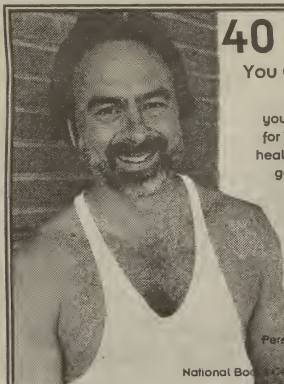
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Bakersfield police sued for targeting gay men

by Katie Szymanski

It has come to the point where warning men about undercover sting operations in public restrooms just isn't enough anymore.

A federal class-action lawsuit filed last week against the Bakersfield Police Department on behalf of Bakersfield resident Roger Hartley claims that Hartley's constitutional rights were violated last year when an officer lured him into a public park's restroom and arrested him for lewd conduct.

But Hartley, who was charged with soliciting a lewd act when he entered a stall to urinate, didn't have to do anything to be considered an offender, according to the officer's very own report.

As documented in the police report for Hartley's arrest, the officer approached Hartley in Bakersfield's Central Park on June 19, 1999, and struck up a conver-



Attorney Geoff Kors

sation. Hartley at first ignored the officer, but eventually agreed to talk with him. Then the officer suggested that the two engage in a sexual act.

"I stated I preferred bathrooms and that a blow job in the park was probably not that dangerous,"

the police officer's report reads. "He told me he did not like doing things in public."

Hartley entered the restroom after the conversation, was interrupted mid-urination, then arrested, allegedly for holding his penis in his hand.

Hartley is joined in his lawsuit by a handful of other men who were similarly targeted and arrested in the same three-week period, according to attorney Geoff Kors of San Francisco's Wotman, Kors, and Cloutier, the law firm representing the men. The suit was filed June 15 in the United States District Court for Eastern California and demands a jury trial to address what Kors said is a violation of both the federal and state constitution with regard to privacy, discrimination, maliciousness, and probable cause.

"There are two legal issues. One is that the Police Department is targeting one group of people because of their sexual orientation," Kors told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "And the other is that even if crimes were committed—which they weren't—it's the officer who is doing the soliciting."

Kors believes the department's targeting of gay and bisexual men is just a transparent attempt to keep them in the closet and out of public.

"The effect of this operation is that gay men don't want to go the park, even to read a book," said Kors. "And the department knows that this is the effect it's having." ▼

'Queeriosity' party caters to youth

by Katie Szymanski

Ah, youth. Although the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community seems to worship the culture, those who actually qualify as young people continue to be left out of Pride events, particularly where coming out is concerned.

"Queeriosity Killed the Cat," now in its third year, provides a space for questioning, closeted, and out youth to share their experiences in a fun and supportive environment this Sunday. Sponsored by Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center, Youth Speaks, and ODC Theater, Queeriosity is a post-Pride celebration on June 25 that features Youth Speaks poetry slam champs Kassy Kayiatos, Tiger Walsh, and Mario Balcita, and a number of other youth performers in an intimate, drug-free cabaret setting. Audiences of all ages and sexual orientations are invited to join the celebration of young people who have come out, and to help create a safe space for others to do so.

Queeriosity will be held at 8 p.m. at the ODC Theater, located in the Mission, 3153 17th Street, at Shotwell. Tickets are \$10 for general admission and \$5 for those under 20 years old, and are available by calling (415) 863-9834, or by going to Tix in Union Square, or by visiting www.odcdance.org/theater or www.ticketweb.com. ▼

SFAF's next public board meeting June 29

by Cynthia Laird

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation Board of Directors will hold its last designated public meeting of the year Thursday, June 29, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at SFAF's office, 995 Market Street, in the second floor conference room.

People interested in attending the meeting must contact the board liaison at (415) 487-3053 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. The request should include the name of the individual wishing to attend and a contact phone number. The board chair will review the request and contact the individual before the meeting.

For those interested in addressing the board, requests need to be made up to 48 hours before the meeting. People must notify the board chair in writing or by phone through the board liaison and include the topic and time requested to present the information to the board. People also must leave a contact name and phone number. The chair will review the request and when appropriate, invite members of the public to speak to the board.

If a speaking request cannot be honored, the board chair will identify an alternative form of communication with the organization. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Poll: Californians now favor same-sex unions

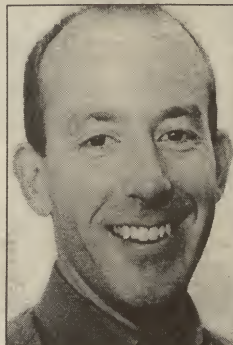
by Terry Beswick

Just in time for Pride, a new poll released Wednesday, June 21 shows that a majority of California voters — particularly younger voters — now believe that committed relationships between two people of the same sex should be legally recognized.

Fifty-two percent of those polled said they favor "recognizing the legal union of two people of the same sex in a committed relationship," while 41 percent were opposed. This is a remarkable shift from a similar poll taken in April 1999, in which just 43 percent favored same-sex unions, and 51 percent opposed them.

The new polling data seems to confirm a much-predicted cultural shift towards acceptance of not only same-sex unions, but equal rights for gays and lesbians on a variety of fronts.

"We've seen a tremendous change in the last year alone as we've gone from a majority op-



Mike Marshall

posing same-sex unions to a majority favoring it," said Bob Meadow of Decision Research, which conducted the 1999 and 2000 surveys for the San Francisco-based Horizons Foundation and the Human Rights Campaign, a national lesbian and gay political group based in Washington, D.C.

Conducted in April through telephone interviews of 1,200 registered voters, the new poll also is being touted as evidence that while the No on Knight/Proposition 22 campaign failed to defeat the anti-gay measure at the ballot box in March, the campaign did succeed in educating many voters about the inequities faced by same-sex couples. Proposition 22 codified into law that only marriages between a man and a woman are to be recognized in the state.

"These polling numbers show that whenever these issues are debated, our community moves forward," said Mike Marshall, who managed the No on Knight campaign. "It shows that the strategy of the religious right to use the marriage word as a wedge issue is backfiring on them."

Interestingly, only 50 percent of poll respondents admitted voting for the Knight initiative, and 10 percent said they couldn't remember or declined to say how they voted on the measure sponsored by state Senator Pete Knight (R-Palmdale). The initiative was approved in March by 61 percent of the voters.

Among the poll's other findings, some of which were released to the media last week:

- A 6 percent increase in those who strongly favor allowing gay and lesbian marriage outright, and a 7 percent decrease in those who oppose it.

- A 10 percent increase in those who believe gays and lesbians want to marry in order to express love and commitment, and a 6 percent decrease in those who believe they want to marry to promote a "gay agenda" and "lifestyle."

- A 5 percent decrease in those who believe that homosexuality is morally wrong, and a corresponding 5 percent increase in those who strongly oppose denying civil rights on the basis of homosexuality.

- Fifty-four percent believe that homophobia is morally wrong, and 69 percent of voters believe

trons have the right to withdraw their consent to be searched at any time and walk away.

Tucker believes the tough new rules at 1015 set a bad precedent for other late night club venues in San Francisco and may take away part of what makes the city exciting.

"I'm a native San Franciscan, the phrase 'only in San Francisco' applies to a lot of things I've done my whole life and it would be really a shame if 'only in San Francisco' doesn't exist any more," Tucker told the B.A.R.

Tucker said SFLNC is planning a club summit to address some of

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Late night club fans stage rally

by Ed Walsh

Late night club fans are circling the wagons to fight what they believe is a concerted effort to put the clubs out of business.

Last Saturday, June 17, the San Francisco Late Night Coalition held a rally from noon until 8 p.m. at Piers 30 and 32. The event featured speakers, live bands, and deejays.

Organizers said it was planned before the recent troubles at the 1015 Folsom club but the tough new mandatory security procedures implemented at 1015 were at the top of their concerns. They fear those policies may eventually be mandated for other clubs. There were 19 narcotics arrests at 1015 over the Memorial Day weekend, including seven from the gay circuit party, Mass.

"What happened at Mass was a big wake up call for everybody," SFLNC's chairperson Stephanie Tucker told the Bay Area Reporter. Many of the Mass patrons had complained that 1015's security was too aggressive. Some said they would boycott future events at the club.

In a settlement reached with the San Francisco Police Department and the City Attorney's office, 1015 agreed to set up an extensive security camera system to monitor every part of the club except the bathrooms. The tapes are kept for seven days and must be surrendered to city authorities when requested. The club also must submit weekly lists of all deejays and promoters involved in 1015 events. The club also agreed to arrest anyone found with even a small amount of drugs.

Tucker said SFLNC has printed up cards to inform clubbers of their rights. She said it was important to get the word out that pa-

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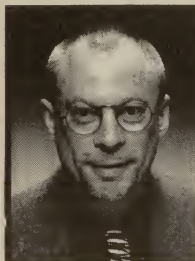
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Gay Men's Health Summit set for July

by Liz Highleyman

The second annual Gay Men's Health Summit is set to take place July 19-23 in Boulder, Colorado. Organizers expect this year's summit to draw 500 healthcare professionals, activists, public health officials, policy makers, researchers, journalists, and others. The summit is open not just to gay men, but to anyone interested in gay men's health and wellness.

The first Gay Men's Health Summit, held at the same time last year, aimed to expand the scope of gay men's health beyond HIV prevention and AIDS care. Underlining the need for a broader focus, a survey of over 1,750 people conducted by the Web site GayHealth.com in April found that depression was the primary health concern for a third of the gay men who responded, more than those that cited HIV/AIDS; other major health concerns were hepatitis, sexually transmitted diseases, and prostate and testicular health.

Over 150 workshops and presentations are scheduled for this year's conference. Among the many topics to be covered will be heart disease, domestic violence, tobacco use, cancer, suicide, depression, hearing loss due to loud music (which the *Bay Area Reporter* reported on extensively ear-

lier this year), relations between gay men and their healthcare providers, and the impact of computer technology on health, sex, and sexuality.

Recent research from the San Francisco Circuit Party Health Study will be presented as part of a track on the circuit scene and the use and abuse of party drugs. Among the more intriguing workshop titles: "Strengthen your Spirit by Loving the Land: A Workshop for Rural Gay Men and Urban Gay Men with Rural Spirits," "Fisting 101: Pleasure and Safety with Handballing," "Hot Times, Hot Topics: Glory Holes, Rent Boys, and Public Sex," and "Getting To Know Your Primary Sex Organ."

Several presentations will address issues of interest to specific populations of gay men, including men of color, seniors, youth, deaf men, disabled men, incarcerated men, bears, leathermen, male sex workers, bisexual men, FTM and transgendered gay men, and rural and working-class men. Following feedback from participants at last year's conference, there will be an emphasis on wellness, spirituality, and alternative and holistic health.

Pre-summit institutes – focusing on health policy, spirituality, organizing a gay men's health project, young gay men, men of color, barebacking, and an experiential workshop entitled "Manifest Love" – will take place on Wednes-

day, July 19. A reception will be held that evening, followed by the opening plenary. Other events include a beach party, a bar night, 12-step meetings, and a spirit ritual conducted by San Francisco Metropolitan Community Church pastor, the Reverend Jim Mitulski.

A key goal of the conference is the creation of local, grassroots gay men's health projects and regional health summits; several workshops will be devoted to the logistics of setting up such projects and events. Eric Rofes, part of the eight-member organizing collective, said that he expects this to be the last national summit, and hopes instead for many regional conferences in subsequent years. Said Rofes, "Our aim is to inoculate the nation with grassroots campaigns promoting gay men's health and wellness. ... This summit is about energizing people to go home and take Boulder with them." ▼

The Gay Men's Health Summit will take place at the Regal Harvest House Hotel in Boulder. For more information or to register, visit the Web site at www.bcap.org, call (303) 444-6121, or send e-mail to GMHSummit@aol.com. Registration is \$150; the deadline for scholarship requests is July 1.

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Thanks for everything, Rita



Rita Rockett, center, stands with nurses and staff of San Francisco General Hospital's Ward 5A Tuesday, June 20, following the Health Commission's recognition of her 16 years of volunteer service. Starting on Easter 1984, Rockett and volunteers have prepared a twice-monthly, then monthly brunch for the patients, many of them PWAs, on Ward 5A. Not even the birth of her two children prevented a brunch from being served. Rockett is moving to Ohio, but plans are in the works to continue the monthly tradition.

California Legislature passes jury bill

by Katie Szymanski

Building on a recent state court decision that prohibited dismissing potential jury members on the basis of their sexual orientation, Assemblywoman Carole Migden's (D-San Francisco) new bill could soon codify that ruling as law.

Migden's AB2418 passed the state Senate last week with a bipartisan vote of 25-7, and now goes to Governor Gray Davis for his signature. The bill, if signed, would ban the practice of dismissing jurors simply because they are perceived to be gay. It is a

policy that is long overdue, considering what happened here in San Francisco during two recent murder trials where the victims were gay men.

The public may remember when both Edgard Mora and Steven Nary faced charges of murder in San Francisco Superior Court last year; both of their victims - Brian Wilmes, and Juan Piffare, respectively - were gay men, and both of their attorneys automatically excused potential jurors whom they perceived to be gay or lesbian. As a result, the jury did not benefit from the perspective of a person who is often the target of misconceptions about

sexuality. In the Mora trial, for instance, the word "faggot" was never universally accepted as a derogatory term, so Mora's alleged use of the word during his attack was not a factor when the jury considered a verdict. The case ended in a mistrial and eventual plea bargain for involuntary manslaughter.

In the Nary trial, the defense built its case on a "gay panic" motive; prosecutors called the defense's bluff and the young man with a knack for bludgeoning was sentenced to prison.

The original court ruling that sparked Migden's bill came too

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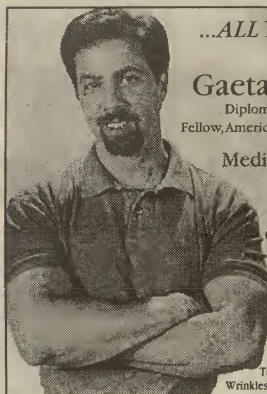
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OPEN FORUM

Pride marches on

This is it. San Francisco's 30th annual Pride Parade and Celebration is this weekend, and we look forward to another of those "only in San Francisco" days for which the parade is known. Hundreds of thousands of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenders, and straight people are expected to converge on this city of great tolerance in a show of strength that proves that the LGBT communities have come a long way since the first "Gay-In" and picnic in June 1970.

It is said that a picture is worth a thousand words. For our special section this auspicious year, we decided to dig up old photographs of previous parades. Some, from the late Crawford Barton that we obtained from the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society of Northern California, have never been published before, archivists tell us. Others were drawn from our files. All tell the story of San Francisco's rich history of LGBT pride.

We did the retrospective to show what we take pride in, for our history tells a lot about where we've been and who we've been. One of the enduring features of Pride is that has always been a part of the gay liberation movement. Parades over the years have been full of political statements of the day, whether in fighting for an end to discrimination (still not over), denouncing the latest homophobe (still not over), or demanding an end to the AIDS epidemic (still not over). The fact that these goals continue to elude us is reason enough to get to Market Street this Sunday to either march in or watch the parade. We must continue to show the world who we are, while having some fun, because after all, we do know how to celebrate. It's also important to recall how far we've journeyed and the laughter and tears we have shared along the way.

We've achieved remarkable successes over the past 30 years, and San Francisco often has led the way. There are now gay and lesbian elected officials, appointed officials, anti-discrimination protections, and other hard-fought victories of which we can be proud. We've also had horrible tragedies – the assassination of Harvey

Milk, the AIDS and breast cancer crises, and anti-LGBT violence. Through it all, however, we've largely been able to unite every June as a community to celebrate.

It's important for communities to have special days to celebrate; it's part of human nature. And we in San Francisco have a special role because our Pride event is an example for people around the world. As former grand marshal Candace Gingrich told us, "Nobody does Pride like San Francisco." In Kansas or Iowa, some teenager will see coverage of this event and know that somewhere in the country people are celebrating who they are. Many of us have left places of repression to live here, but even in San Francisco, we can feel the sting of homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia.

And that's a reminder that our work is not over. There are still people and institutions to educate, laws to be passed, and freedoms to win.

This year's theme, "It's About Freedom," is fitting in that respect. And as we watch the parade contingents on Sunday, we must still bear in mind the vast amount of work that lies ahead. The LGBT communities have more support than perhaps at any other time in history. In this, the first parade of the new millennium, we should celebrate, but also commit ourselves to righting some of the wrongs in society as we march on toward full equality.

Think about that this Sunday, but also have a good time and play safely. Happy LGBT Pride! ▼



Editorial



Reflections of a Native American

by Randy Burns

I moved to San Francisco in 1975 from Nevada, leaving behind my tribal homeland: Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation. Like so many young lesbian and gay Native Americans, I moved here to continue my higher education at San Francisco State University.

During my summer breaks, I was employed at the American Indian Center on Valencia Street. It was there I met many lesbian and gay Native Americans like myself. For the first time in my life, I felt safe to be myself and free from ridicule and harassment for being different as a gay man. Besides working at the center, here in the city, I met other Native Americans – of mixed heritage – representing over 500 Inter-Tribal nations.

So it was easy for me to organize the Gay American Indians (GAI) organization. GAI was the first lesbian/gay Native organization in the United States and Canada. GAI was formed to give emotional, practical, and cultural support for lesbian and gay people living in the San Francisco Bay Area.

At one time, GAI membership reached over 1,000 strong. Never in my dreams did I ever imagine meeting so many queer people living here in one place. Every year, I looked forward to marching in the gay parade behind our homemade banners. After these marches, lesbian and gay Indians visiting from out of state would wander over to the outreach table to sign up to be a member of GAI. Those were the days of having good times, having fun, and less political correctness.

During the mid-1980s, the AIDS epidemic began to take a toll on our membership. I remember the media reporting of the

"gay plague" killing homosexual men in New York and Los Angeles. Then, I knew it was only a matter of time before it would come our way – to take away our special and talented warriors. At the time, our local Indian leadership and community members were convinced that AIDS was only a white man's disease. There was rampant AIDS-phobia. GAI members felt that we had to challenge our own peoples' ignorance and fears about this deadly disease.

GAI started the American Indian AIDS Institute, a group devoted to providing emotional, practical, and spiritual support to those living with the virus. It was not easy to address AIDS because we not only had to deal with the urban Indian families, but those Native families who live on isolated Indian reservations throughout the country. During this time, many Native families did not know or understand how the HIV virus was transmitted, let alone that their children were homosexual and dying from a new foreign disease.

Looking back, I have managed to deal with HIV/AIDS with a lot of patience, prayers, and by going to Native ceremonies. Not only was I able to address HIV, but it also gave me a chance to re-educate our own people about our rich traditions as lesbian and gay Natives living among our tribes with a renewed respect.

To this day, it is my belief that we are all placed on Mother Earth for a short time to make peace with ourselves and eventually enter into the spirit world. Having witnessed the loss of so many to this killer virus, AIDS has made me a stronger person in dealing with my own fears about death and dying issues as they relate to HIV.

Currently, I'm employed as a nurse assistant at San Francisco General Hospital. My biggest fears now are with hepatitis C, the new silent killer, and other risk factors that accompany this disease. It is my hope that we can move beyond our own personal agendas and continue to support the indigenous people who need our love and support in these times of "prosperity," regardless of their sexual orientation.

Having spent much of my adult life as a community advocate for San Francisco's diverse communities, it is sad and frustrating to see so many people profiting from this AIDS crisis. I don't see the AIDS epidemic as over, especially as this virus relates to the Alaskan Native and American Indian tribes throughout the United States.

It is my dream that our younger lesbian, gay, transgender, and bisexual youth read our stories, acknowledge our cultural diversity, and learn from the past histories and not repeat the mistakes we have made as we march into a new millennium as ... one people. ▼

Randy Burns is co-founder of GAI. The group will have a 25th silver anniversary party this Friday, June 23, from 4-8 p.m. at Always Different, Always Gangway, 841 Larkin Street at Geary. For more information, call (415) 776-6828. Today (June 22), at noon, two short films – *Honored by the Moon* and *Two-Spirit People: The Berdache Tradition in Native American Culture* – will be presented as part of the GLBT Historical Society's "Making a Case for Community History" at the Main Library, 100 Larkin Street.

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Pride Committee can be proud

They say that "nothing fails like success." Hyde Downard [Mailstrom, June 15] takes a misty-eyed view at the past through rose-tinted spectacles and suggests that Pride is not what it used to be. This is, undeniably, the case. The organization and the event are in much better shape these days.

We have the strongest and most diverse program base in the history of the organization - 10 stages this year including, for the first time, a youth stage, a stage showcasing Asian and Pacific Islander talent and culture, a swing stage, an Imperial Court stage, and a Radical Faerie Freedom Village. We have kept participation for small-budget community organizations to a minimum and, in some cases, zero cost. The board is the most diverse it has ever been and membership is at an all-time high. A record number of people voted (public voting was introduced last year) in the grand marshal ballot and we return more money to the community today than at any time in the history of the event.

Hand in hand with higher standards of community engagement has come higher standards of fiscal responsibility. In the past two years the organization has operated with a positive balance sheet and eradicated the legacy of debt which it inherited in 1997. In their responses to our survey last year, 99 percent of people said that they are satisfied with the event and that the organization had found its way, at last.

The Pride Committee can be proud of its achievements in this, the 30th anniversary year.

Teddy Witherington, Executive Director
San Francisco LGBT Pride Celebration
Committee, Inc.

On the seventh day ...

On the first day the Devine Innovator saw that males and females were attracted to one another. The Devine Innovator then said: "This is good."

On the second day the Devine Innovator saw that not all males and females were attracted to one another. Some males were attracted to males and some females were attracted to females. They called themselves "gay" to distinguish themselves from the others. The Devine Innovator then said that this must be good, too.

On the third day the female gays expressed dissatisfaction. They had difficulty getting along with the males. They wanted to nestle and the males wanted to hunt. They then called themselves "lesbian" in order to show their difference. The D.I. said, well maybe this is good, too.

On the fourth day there arose another group who said that they were attracted to both males and females. For themselves they needed a new name. They called themselves "bisexual." With that, the D.I. agreed also.

On the fifth day the D.I. heard a new voice. Some males and some females said that they would be more comfortable if they were the other sex. The D.I. asked "How?" They replied that it depends on how much they want to change. They called themselves "transgender." The D.I. said that maybe this will work.

On the sixth day the D.I. saw that there were still some without a classification. They kept "questioning." The D.I., said that maybe they will know, some day.

On the seventh day the Divine Innovator wanted to rest from all the innovations. So the D.I. declared a Pride Parade and then mumbled, "Maybe they'll get it all sorted out."

Eli Weinstein
San Francisco

Think pink

Thank you very much for Terry Beswick's article on the pink triangle [The pink triangle: From shame to pride, June 8]. It was very informative, and those of us who put up the display on Twin Peaks each year learned new facts from it. The talk by Dorothy Hajdys-Holman, Allen Schindler's mother, at the dedication this Saturday, June 24, will educate many. Thank you for informing your readers of her participation.

The following have helped make this year's display possible: Teddy Witherington, executive director of the SFLGBTTPCC, continues to be a source of great help. Within minutes of a call to Teddy notifying him of the willingness of Allen Schindler's mother to come from Chicago to participate, he had taken care of all travel arrangements. Last year he donated his own money to help pay for the insurance and permit. He is truly our guardian angel.

The Castro Lions Club has again come through with a generous contribution to help defray some of the costs of the installation. Many of their members have helped install and take down the pink triangle for the past three years. Especially helpful have been Ed Emond, Gardner Pond, and Bond Shands.

Patrick Carney
Thomas Tremblay
Michael Brown
Friends of the Pink Triangle

Pride schmide

After reading Daniel Epp's Guest Opinion in the June 15 B.A.R. about being proud to be out and gay and the fact that it's such a great thing that we have a whole week to celebrate this fact, I felt that my own pride has never been that high and maybe has become even lower since moving here last year. I thought moving to the Bay Area would make me feel better about my sexuality and I would be able to be more open with it, but it seems to just hinder it.

It's hard to be proud when all we get thrown at us are: where the next big circuit event will be happening, or the sounds of the constant beating rhythm that we hear in every bar, restaurant, club, and gym of the latest disco diva, or some funky-up dance-party version of what once used to be a good song. Well, what about the homosexuals who aren't into that? What do we have to be proud of? We just end up hiding in the corners or in our homes pretending we're happy with this community, but really miserable inside because we think there's something wrong with us because we don't listen to Madonna or Whitney, or go to Universe, or could care less about any drag show.

So does being proud mean giving up our identities as men?

That's not something to be proud of, being something you're not. Isn't that the whole reason we all came out? Because we were sick of hiding and pretending. Isn't that what we're doing now? I guess

we'll just continue to hide and pretend until our "community" starts promoting other things and interests or until we start standing on our own as gay men and actually admit to ourselves that yeah, this is what I really enjoy doing, not all this other shit. I hate having to be afraid to admit to other gay men that I listen to rock and roll, I hate drag shows, I don't watch Will & Grace, I've never attended a circuit party, I shop at thrift stores, and I couldn't tell you anything about Martha Wash or Jennifer Holliday.

Why can't we have some diversity in our community and maybe try something different for a change at Pride events for all of us who are gay, but won't be attending gay Pride because of this?

Al Walz
Daly City, California

Hail Dale Carpenter

As Dale Carpenter eloquently wrote in his piece "Excuses, excuses: When Democrats do bad things" [June 15] it is time for the gay community, the gay lobby groups, and the gay political contributors to open their eyes and face their contradictions when elected Democrats adopt anti-gay stances that would not be tolerated from any Republican elected official. It is time to make it loud and clear to office-running Democrats that they will not get our vote and our money just because they are Democrats and not half as bad as any Republican officeholder. Any anti-gay legislation signed by a Democrat or any pro-gay bill vetoed by a Democrat should be sanctioned heavily by our vote. Al Gore should not get our vote, Bill Clinton should not have gotten our vote, Hillary Clinton should not get our vote, Gray Davis should not have gotten our vote and should not get our vote when he runs for re-election.

To people who say let's pick the lesser of two evils, I say let's not pick any evil at all. In many states liberal alternatives are being offered through third parties and one should seriously consider voting for these candidates. This is not a wasted vote. A wasted vote is letting Democrats get away with homophobic legislation thinking that we will still vote for them anyway. Time is overdue for the Democratic Party and Democrats to face their contradictions and deal with them. You should not and will not get the "gay vote" if you agree with DOMA, you should not and will not get the gay vote if you veto domestic partnership legislation, you should not and will not get the gay vote if you support criminalization of sodomy in your state.

Christophe Beraud
San Francisco

Here's to Hansen

As queer affordable housing advocates, tenant organizers, and co-founders of the Castro Tenants Union, we are excited that Eileen Hansen is running for supervisor in District 8.

Hansen, who is also a founder of the Castro Tenants Union and a renter, is totally committed to preserving and strengthening rent control, helping first-time home buyers, stopping the eviction of tenants for illegal condo conversions, and standing up to real estate speculators and developers. We are confident that Eileen will not waiver on her support for rent control and the development and maintenance of affordable housing.

That's why she already has the support of so many tenant and affordable housing advocates throughout the city.

Tommi Avicoli Mecca
Robert Haaland
San Francisco

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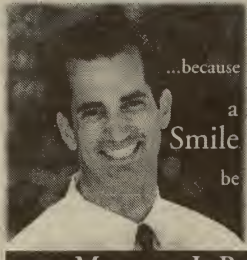
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Honor Vermont lawmakers

This November, the religious right and their supporters will launch a concerted effort to punish the heroic legislators in Vermont who voted for the civil union law. No one can predict the outcome although recent polls have shown that the majority of the people in Vermont will not base their votes on the new law.

However, we can do something to show our appreciation and support for a group of people who have shown tremendous courage in the face of intense hatred and prejudice and voted for what they believed to be the only reasonable and just option. They exemplified the true meaning of what it means to be an American.

We should do everything we can to honor the courageous men and women of the Vermont Legislature. Perhaps others will then be able to see the true nature of the evil that these people stood up to and not be afraid as these wonderful human beings clearly were not.

Jonathan Tan
San Francisco

Points didn't hold water

I'm writing about the article written by Terry Beswick - "David Rasnick: The dissident Mbeki called" (June 8).

This article is obviously written from a very biased point of view. Unfortunately, not only the facts were reported, but also the writer's ample amount of negativity toward dissidents. So much personal negativity, it makes one wonder where this gross amount of anti-dissident, anti-Rasnick feelings come from.

Beswick's reasoning and reported points didn't really hold much water. His feeble attempt to discredit Rasnick based on his personal human characteristics looked pretty desperate.

It's too bad this article wasn't written with an unbiased point of view.

Lucy d'Azzo
Oakland, California

Passive aggressive sniping

All the snide bias and AIDS industry suck-up by Terry Beswick in his David Rasnick piece (June 8) will not change the course of HIV history. Peter Duesberg was correct about HIV bullshit in 1987 and remains so today. He has saved more lives (those who chose to dig through the nonsense) than all the billions squandered on bad science and poisons. We now have 18,000-plus SF deaths alone and a plethora of therapy-related illnesses. One need only refer to the Jeff Getty/Survive AIDS article on page 24 (June 8) to get the message.

The B.A.R. chooses to downplay the recreational (poppers anyone?) and therapeutic drug connection in this sorry state of affairs, then tries to take the moral high road against those of us speaking the ugly truth.

We would have welcomed Terry Beswick's questions and challenges to our views. Unfortunately, he chose to be a passive aggressive sniper and good old boy to the powers that be.

Jerry McPherson, HEAL/SF
Oakland, California

Another Rasnick defender

An article appeared in the June 8 Bay Area Reporter by Terry Beswick regarding Dr. David Rasnick, South African President Thabo Mbeki, and the question of the relationship of HIV to AIDS.

The extreme bias of Terry Beswick against Dr. Rasnick and his position on HIV/AIDS was very apparent throughout this article. It was sleazy journalism at its worst. He referred to Dr. Rasnick as a disenfranchised HIV/AIDS denialist. Beswick did the same thing to Dr. Peter Duesberg, a renowned scientist.

In referring to the group assembled to hear Dr. Rasnick, Beswick wrote the following derogatory remarks: "Speaking to the assembled lay people, themselves perhaps ill-equipped to counter the specious and flippant arguments being put forward to dismantle the 'AIDS myth,' Rasnick espoused a populist approach as a way to revisit the cause of AIDS."

I hope that the objectionable style and bias of Terry Beswick are not representative of the Bay Area Reporter.

Dick Trostler
Claremont, California

Value dissent

Hey, how about a fair hearing for ACT/UP San Francisco. This is America, remember? Where we're supposed to value the right to dissent. And you might consider that their views aren't as far out as you paint them. About half the thinking people in the country now agree with them. I've never believed the HIV myth, and I know lots of very intelligent people who're laughing at you people who still believe it.

AIDS is over!

Gene Franks
Denton, Texas

A mass of litter after 'Mass'

How nice that gay circuit party promoter Gus Bean is apologizing for the Mass mess that occurred recently due to the anti-drug crackdown ("Promoter apologizes for 'Mass' mess," June 8). Perhaps he could also apologize for the mass mess his promotions cause through streets littered with the leftovers of his promotional material. How inconsiderate!

I can imagine all those lucky, lucky patrons enjoying a free night at the club sans the \$20 entrance fee. Gee, maybe he might throw in a free drink, too.

Benedict Cummins
San Francisco

Catholic Church passes the buck

In response to Maurice Healy's letter ("Clarifying archbishop's role," June 8), I once again see how the church passes the buck and never holds itself accountable for the truth. What really happened at that private dinner party with an unnamed journalist? Mr. Healy's letter suggests that the archbishop had no part in the suppression of World Pride Roma. The church has always been known to cover its ass when the going gets tough. I suggest the archbishop and Mr. Healy take their heads out of their asses and be held accountable for what really happened. The church has always blamed the media, claiming that somehow, some unknown journalist misquoted or falsified the truth. The church has been lying now for 2,000 years and still thinks the population at large is going to believe its bullshit. I suggest the archbishop attend this year's San Francisco Pride festivities to see for himself what gay Pride is all about.

Jim Lenartz
San Francisco

Another lesson, another attack

Your insightful story ("Gays mobilize to stop Vatican oppression," June 8) about Rome Mayor Francesco Rutelli, who succumbed to Vatican pressure and canceled all permits and funding for World Pride Roma, once again brings another lesson in sobering detail regarding yet another attack by the Vatican and the papacy in attempting to inject (Catholic) theocracy and dogma into a state's secular affairs. The excuse we hear this time from the halls of St. Peter's is that World Pride Roma conflicts with the Catholic Church's Jubilee celebration. Our community has been labeled obscene, perverted, and anti-family, all of which stems from a videotape given to Vatican authorities by the staff of Archbishop Levada of San Francisco.

Now what do we have here? A group of clergy cloistered within the confines of the Vatican watching various and selected segments of San Francisco's LGBT Pride Parade and other video footage. We have Vatican clergy passing judgment, issuing edicts, condemning, criticizing, and fanning the flames of intolerance. How draconian! The Vatican's 14th century mentality and its modern day Inquisition against the LGBT community has now resulted in a formula of neo-fascists and right-wing sympathizers staging public rallies of hate and bigotry against Rome's gay and lesbian community.

What is really obscene and history bears witness to, is the Catholic Church's history of suppressing and oppressing indigenous peoples and non-Christians, forcing them to convert to Catholicism or perish. A history of silencing free thought and expression (Galileo, Copernicus, Mozart, Joan of Arc, etc.), the history of the Spanish Inquisition, a history of the Reich Concordat of 1933 which silenced the democratic voice of German Catholic bishops and, according to some historians, thereby paved the way for the rise of Nazism, a history where the Jews of Rome were dragged to their death in the very shadows of the Vatican itself under the reign of Pope Pius XII, a history of squelching the voices of Central American priests and bishops who preached liberation theology, a history of sexual improprieties, and a history of repressing women's reproductive freedoms.

So, when we hear the Vatican and San Francisco's archbishop equate our essence, our being, our culture with that of perverts and that of the anti-family, when we are drawn to their inflammatory rhetoric and propaganda regarding our right to free association and assembly, our acts of association and expression (and yes, even a few minor and harmless acts of public nudity), pale in comparison. For history will judge our acts as acts of freedom and defiance in the face of oppression, religious bigotry, and fascism.

Now is the time to mobilize on these issues as never before. Support our gay brothers and sisters.

Mikeal Levi
San Francisco

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POLITICS

Gore replaces national campaign chair, again

by Wayne Friday

Numerous polls, including the latest survey from the *Los Angeles Times*, continue to show Texas Governor **George W. Bush** with a lead over Vice President **Al Gore**, causing some worry in Democratic circles. In the latest effort to jump start his flagging campaign, Gore had yet another campaign shakeup last week, this time replacing national campaign chair **Tony Coelho** with Clinton Commerce Secretary **William Daley**, a respected campaign expert and brother of the mayor of Chicago.

The change at the top of the Gore campaign came amid continuing concerns among many Democrats about Bush's steady lead over Gore in the national polls that started after the two all but won their party's respective nominations in March. However, although Bush is leading in most national polls, strategists in both parties say that the polls this early in the campaign are virtually meaningless and that many of these same polls will no doubt change following the summer nominating conventions.

The *L.A. Times* released its latest poll over the weekend showing Bush solidifying his lead in the presidential contest, with a new lead of 50 percent to 40 percent, and the rest undecided or supporting another candidate. There were reports out of Bush's Austin headquarters that the presumptive GOP nominee is now turning his attention nearly full time to choosing his vice presidential running mate and is said to be planning to release the name of his choice as early as 10 days before the GOP convention officially opens on July 31 in Philadelphia.

With some prominent Republicans such as former President **Gerald Ford** urging Bush to consider an abortion rights advocate as his running mate, the more right-wing, conservative leaders of the GOP are threatening to bolt if Bush doesn't adhere to the national party platform that has long included a strong pro-life plank. Bush campaign staffers say the Texas governor has whittled down the veep short list in the past week and some say it definitely includes Pennsylvania Governor **Tom Ridge**, a moderate, pro-choice Catholic, who happens to come from a political swing state that has the fifth-largest bloc of electoral votes.

While many centrist Republicans believe Bush could send a powerful signal to swing voters who abandoned the GOP in the past two presidential elections (particularly women Republican voters) if he were to choose a pro-choice running mate, the recent *Times* poll reveals that probably just as many pro-life Republicans might either stay at home or bolt to one-time Republican **Patrick Buchanan**, now the presumed nominee of the Reform Party and a man who will make his pro-life stance a strong point of his campaign.

Indeed, the *Times* poll showed that 13 percent of those surveyed said they would be less likely to vote for Bush if he were to choose

a pro-choice running mate, while only 8 percent said they would be more likely. Nearly 40 percent of voters who consider themselves conservative religious fundamentalists – still an important base of the Republican Party – and about one-quarter of voters who identify themselves as conservative Republicans, say they would be less likely to support Bush with a running mate who supports legalized abortion.

By contrast, the same poll indicates that such a selection would help Bush little with groups such as Democratic women, independents, and self-identified moderates; no more than one in 10 in each group say they would be more likely to support Bush if his running mate supports legalized abortion.

So, what does Bush do when it comes to tackling the issue and making the hard choice on his vice presidential selection? It makes sense

to me that in the end – while Bush remains solidly pro-life, and would obviously like to appease those Republicans who feel he must reach out to voters like pro-choice GOP women – Bush plays it safe. That means that Governor Ridge, despite the current hype, is out, and a midwestern, pro-life U.S. senator like Nebraska's **Chuck Hagel** (who, incidentally has a war record that almost equals that of **John McCain**) or conservative Ohio Representative **John Kasich** (although this guy might just have waited a bit too late in life to get married to please some Republicans) or Oklahoma Governor **Frank Keating**, likely will move to the head of Bush's short list well before the GOP convention.

Regardless of who Bush picks as his running mate, and again, it is reportedly what he is currently concentrating on nearly full time with his father and former Defense Secretary **Dick Cheney**, it makes good political sense for Bush to announce his running mate a week or so before the GOP gathers in Philadelphia; it would allow Bush to generate a round of news coverage, make highly publicized joint campaign appearances around the country for several days, and then ride together into the national Republican convention.

Frankly, I can't even think like a Republican, but if I had to bet now on who Dubya eventually chooses, I'd probably bet that the Republicans will come out of their convention with a Bush-Hagel ticket.

Politics and people

More than a few nurses are wondering what the California Nurses Association could have been thinking about last week when the 31,000-member organization endorsed Green Party candidate **Ralph Nader** for president.

Two who definitely won't make it to their respective party's veep list this year: GOP Senator **Fred Thompson** of Tennessee (he's single and reported stories about his dating are said to be too distracting for the Republicans), and Democratic Secretary of Energy **Bill Richardson**, a Latino, who was



Energy Secretary Bill Richardson

thought to be on Al Gore's short list. Richardson's chances went out the door along with those nuclear weapons secrets at Los Alamos National Laboratory; even some top Democratic congressional members have called for Richardson's head on this one and have suggested that the Energy Department suffers from "a culture of indifference" about security.

However, on veep possibilities – how about Reform Party nominee-to-be Pat Buchanan saying that homophobic talk-show host **Laura Schlessinger** is on his veep short list (it figures), along with the likes of **Alan Keyes** and **Oliver North**.

N.Y. Senate candidate **Rick Lazio** got caught with his foot in his mouth recently when CBS News asked him about negative campaigning. Lazio: "I think you have to be decent, but that doesn't mean you have to be a pansy." Lazio's votes on gay issues in the House, incidentally, earn him a lousy 18 percent rating from the Human Rights Campaign.

The only openly gay Republican officeholder in the South lost that designation last week when **David Schwacke**, the chief prosecutor in Charleston, South Carolina, was narrowly defeated in a GOP primary by an opponent whose slogan was "For our Families." Schwacke lost by only 265 votes out of nearly 30,000 cast; he was seeking re-election for the first time since making his sexuality public three years ago, after local Republican officials asked state police to investigate accusations that Schwacke had downloaded pornography on his office computer. Schwacke was cleared of any wrongdoing, but was outspent 4 to 1 by his opponent who ran television ads vowing to "get tough on child molesters."

Gay dogs beware! **George Finley**, 58, of Ocala, Florida, was found guilty last week by a jury who convicted him of killing his wife's neutered male poodle who reportedly tried to engage in sexual activity with another family dog, a male terrier. Prosecutors said Finley hit the dog in the head and hurled it against a tree, causing the dog to lapse into a coma and he had to be put to sleep. "He felt that the dog was a queer-type dog and it made him angry," said Sheriff's Captain **Mike McQuaig**.

A usually reliable City Hall source tells me that termed-out Supervisor **Barbara Kaufman** is already looking forward to the next mayors race.

Another source informs me that former Sheriff/Supervisor/Assessor/Police Chief **Richard Hongisto** is set to announce for the supervisors race in the new 5th District; thereby setting up a

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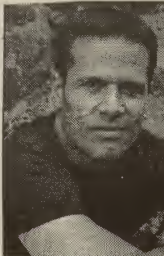
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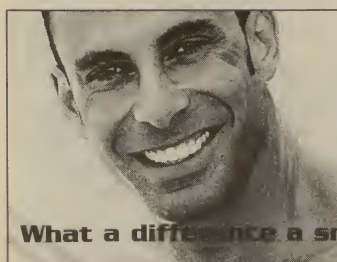
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The arrogance of sexism still exists

by Paula Martinac

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, one of our movement's leading organizations, recently welcomed a new executive director to replace Kerry Lobel. Not only is Elizabeth Toledo the organization's sixth consecutive lesbian leader in the last decade, but she's also the third woman of color to hold NGLTF's top slot. One gay male journalist recently complained that this amounts to reverse discrimination, but in my view, it's just good policy.

Reading Toledo's resume (available at www.nglft.org), it's hard not to be impressed with her background and leadership skills. Like many other lesbians, she came out through her work in the women's movement and after a heterosexual marriage. Her last job was as vice president-action of the National Organization for Women, where she organized the Lesbian and Women of Color summit. She has substantial fundraising and media experience and is a powerful speaker. I felt a rush of emotion when she took the podium at the rally of the Millennium March on Washington and proclaimed herself a proud Latina lesbian mother.

Yet, despite her considerable qualifications, journalist Rex Wockner pitched a fit over her hiring in two of the editions of his news roundup, "The Wockner Wire" (www.planetout.com). "What are the odds," Wockner questions, "that six times in a row the best applicant was a female?" And, he adds, a feminist and woman "of color" to boot (his quotation marks, not mine).

When readers called him misogynist and racist, Wockner switched gears, emphasizing instead Toledo's newness to the gay movement. "How many times has she been to the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival?" he asks, concocting a bizarre and anachronistic marker for true lesbianism. I myself have never been to Michigan, though I've been out and active for almost 20 years.

Normally, I wouldn't bother to give up column space to complaints like Wockner's, but I think they reflect larger problems in our community. The unabashed arrogance of sexism still astounds me. Sure, the argument goes, maybe one or two women could be qualified for such a high-profile and important job. But *six*? There couldn't possibly be that many bright, dedicated, politically savvy lesbians (either white or of color) out there. Obviously, Toledo couldn't have gotten the job on her own merit; she *had* to have been chosen over someone much more qualified! (Read: a white man.)

The first problem with this kind of reasoning is, for lack of a better word, "feminist-phobia." During my organizing days, I met too many white gay men who would share Wockner's outrage at yet another feminist-identified lesbian rising to the helm of one of our top organizations. "Feminism" for many gay men (and women, unfortunately) is as dirty a word as "homosexuality" is to the religious right. But, the feminist movement, which has actively tried to eliminate the gender roles that bind both women and men, helped pave the way to the lesbian and gay liberation movement.

Second, there's the continuing problem of how narrowly we define our politics. One of my angriest gay male readers once advised me that "if you're so interested in women's issues, go work for NOW!" In effect, lesbians should be able to neatly compartmentalize the discriminations we've experienced as women and as queers, even though they're connected. If we can't, well, we just should shut up and not bother men with problems that presumably don't have anything to do with them.

It's sad to think that some in our community will take NGLTF's hiring of Toledo personally, as a sort of a calculated slap in the face

of white gay men. Instead, it should be viewed as smart (she's a catch), politically astute (she's a recently out mom), and totally in keeping with that organization's goals (she's a long-time progressive activist).

Remember, NGLTF is the only national lesbian and gay organization that consistently makes connections among different kinds of oppression. It was the only one of our national groups to call for a federal investigation into the killing of Amadou Diallo, an unarmed West African immigrant, by four white New York City cops. And it remains the only one whose platform of lesbian and gay issues includes not just the standard ones, like overturning

sodomy laws, fighting AIDS, and obtaining same-sex marriage rights, but also commitment to racial and economic justice and, yes, to affirmative action.

In addition, with Toledo's hiring, NGLTF practices what it preaches. Last fall, the organization's Policy Institute sponsored a roundtable for a racially diverse group of lesbian and gay leaders to discuss how race affects the direction of our movement. Part of the problem, observed the Policy Institute's director (and former NGLTF chief), Urvasi Vaid, is that "very few [GLBT organizations] have crossed the color line in leadership positions" even though talented leaders of color "abound."

It's admirable, then, that NGLTF snapped up the amply qualified Toledo, who brings to the job a welcome breadth of experience and perspective. ▼

Paula Martinac is the author of seven books, including *The Lesbian and Gay Book of Love and Marriage*. She can be reached care of this publication or at LNcolumn@aol.com. For more Lesbian Notions, visit www.planetout.com.

Jury bill

◀ page 5

late for these two local murder trials, but its significance was heard loud and clear around the city. The February ruling, from the state's Fourth District Court of Appeals, said that gays and lesbians were a "cognizable" group and therefore could not be dismissed from a jury for their membership in that

group. The decision related to a case known as *People v. Garcia*, a burglary trial in Orange County in which two lesbians were not selected for the jury because of their sexual orientation.

Migden's bill seeks to put that ruling into writing, rather than rely on other justices to follow the state court's example. The Legislature's enactment of the decision will make it clear to all courts that lesbians and gay men can have a

place in the jury box, even during a gay-themed trial. The bill will also codify rulings that prohibit jury discrimination based on race, gender, religion, and ethnicity.

"The gay community should never be excluded from a judicial system that relies on verdicts from a cross-section of society," said Migden. "It's discriminatory, plain and simple."

Governor Davis has until June 27 to sign the bill into law. ▼

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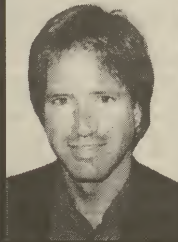
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HISTORY LESSON

The history of New York's gay community

by David Bianco

June 27, 1969 (31 years ago this month): Police raid the Stonewall Inn in New York City.

Historians date the gay liberation movement to a few nights in 1969, when New York City queers took to the streets to protest police harassment of gay bars. But the city's gay community can actually trace its roots back at least 100 years.

In the last decades of the 19th century, many young people came to New York City from small towns, rural areas, and Europe, looking for the economic opportunities that the country's largest city offered. The new residents crowded the predominantly working-class neighborhoods. Among them were many queer folk who had felt isolated and alone in their hometowns.

An array of saloons and dance halls catered to the social needs of the new urban dwellers, and patrons included numerous male "degenerates." The "fairies," who frequented establishments like Paresis Hall on the Lower East Side, "call each other sisters," wrote one observer, "and take people out for immoral purposes." Vice squad reports from the early 1900s show that gay men also frequented public spaces like parks and bathhouses looking for sex.

Because women led less public lives than men did, little is known about lesbians in New York before the 1920s. However, many of the city's labor organizers, social workers, suffragists, and academics of the late 19th and early 20th centuries were never-married women who lived in domestic arrangements with other women and had networks of close female friends. The membership of Heterodoxy, a middle-class women's political club founded in 1912 in Greenwich Village, included quite a few pairs of "devoted companions."

The period between the world wars witnessed an expansion of the artistic life of the city. Bohemian culture, which embraced both artistic and sexual freedom, took root in the Village. Queer artists like Edna St. Vincent Millay, Eva Le Gallienne, and Hart Crane epitomized the Village's "anything goes" atmosphere, making it a popular haven for gay men and lesbians.

At the same time, a queer subculture blossomed in Harlem. Many of the greatest contributors to the Harlem Renaissance of 1920-1935 were gay or bisexual. Drag balls and private parties called

buffet flats "were not gay, but they were open," said artist and writer Richard Bruce Nugent.

As it did in many major cities, World War II furthered the development of a queer community in New York. After the war, many gay service members who were dishonorably discharged stayed on in New York instead of returning to small towns and disapproving families. In 1945, a group of gay ex-soldiers formed the Veterans Benevolent Association, a social club that held dances and parties attracting hundreds of gay men.

Bars remained the center of gay male social life in New York throughout the 1950s and early 1960s, helping to foster a sense of queer community. Separate women's clubs like the Bagatelle and the Sea Colony offered lesbians a way to meet friends and lovers, too. The "gay girl" culture of 1950s Greenwich Village, heavily dominated by butch-femme role playing, was popularized in pulp novels of the day, like *Odd Girl Out* by Ann Bannon.

Queer New York had its political side, too. Activist Randy Wick-er, a member of the local Mattachine Society, launched a one-man campaign in 1962 to improve gay coverage in the media. Wick-er's efforts culminated in the running of a gay story on the front page of the *New York Times* in December 1963 — a first for a main-

stream paper. Although the headline was far from positive — "Growth of Overt Homosexuality in City Provokes Wide Concern" — the story cracked the wall of silence surrounding what had become a bona fide community.

In 1967, gay activist Craig Rodwell, also a Mattachine member, founded the first gay bookstore in the world in Greenwich Village. The Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop was an ad hoc community center, where as much organizing took place as did book buying.

After the historic riots at the Stonewall Inn in June 1969, New York was at the forefront of the new gay liberation movement. Over the next few years, the city witnessed an explosion of gay and lesbian groups. Some organizations founded in the city in the 1970s, like the National Gay Task Force (now NGLTF) and Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, are still leaders of gay activism.

New York City also took center stage during the AIDS crisis. The news story that broke in the July 3, 1981 issue of the *New York Times* — "Rare Cancer Seen in 41 Homosexuals" — led to the organizing of a powerful array of gay social service organizations and activist groups in New York, like Gay Men's Health Crisis in 1982 and ACT UP five years later. In 1985, the Gay and Lesbian Al-

next page ►



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Family values

by Jane Warner

Church and Market area, June 3 and 11: On two different occasions an unknown suspect has been reported accosting couples pushing baby strollers near Church and Market.

The first incident occurred on June 3 at 6 p.m. A man and his wife pushing their baby in a stroller near 14th and Market were approached by man who told them, "Your baby is Satan's spawn." The suspect continued to yell obscenities at the couple for about a block then ran toward the Safeway parking lot.

On June 11, two women pushing their 2-week-old infant in a stroller near Walgreens and Market were approached by a man who screamed, "Pedophiles, pedophiles, Jewish lesbians are pedophiles." The man kicked one of the women twice in the leg and continued to rant incoherently about homosexuals. Responding police were unable to locate the suspect, who fits the description of the suspect in the earlier incident.

Wanted for a hate crime as-

sault, among other charges, is a suspect described as a white man in his 30s, 6 feet tall and weighing 140 pounds with a thin build and chiseled facial features and bleached blond shoulder length hair. In both instances he was wearing a black leather jacket, tight black jeans, and black biker boots.

Witnesses or anyone with information should call Inspector Armour at (415) 553-9138.


Crime & Punishment

Bangman

Church and Market, June 15, 8:20 p.m.: Police responded to a report of a man running down Church Street near Market with a loaded shotgun. Officers located the man at Hermann Street and took him into custody at gunpoint.

The sawed-off shotgun was found nearby in some bushes, and in the man's fanny pack were several shotgun shells. Booked for several firearms offenses and a parole violation was Barry Austin, 31.

Goldilocks

200 block of Dolores, June 16, 1 a.m.: During the middle of the night a drunk man banged on the door of a residential home screaming, "This is Andre, let me

in. I want to stay the night." Through a closed window, the woman resident told the man that he had the wrong house, and to go away. The man persisted, demanding to know who she was, and the woman said she was going to call the police. The man then threw a brick through her window and ran off. He is described as Hispanic, 30 years old, 6 feet tall and weighing 180 pounds, wearing a black baseball cap, gray hooded sweatshirt, and dark pants.

Reunited

A man reported that while in Kinkos on Market Street, his ex-boyfriend came in and started to scream obscenities. Outside, the ex had written "prostitute" on the sidewalk in chalk. Embarrassed, the victim left the store, and his ex followed him, screaming, "So are you out here to prostitute again?" The ex-boyfriend then punched the victim twice in the face. Responding police found the suspect inside Walgreens and arrested him. Cited for battery was Keith O'Brien, 37. ▼

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by Liz Highleyman

Hawaii last week became the first state in the nation to pass a legislator-initiated law allowing for the possession and use of medical marijuana. The state's governor, Ben Cayetano, signed the new legislation on June 14, saying, "My own feeling is more states are going to come on."

Eight other states have instituted measures to permit the medic-

inal use of cannabis, including California, which passed Proposition 215 in November 1996. However, all of these states have implemented the change through citizen ballot initiatives; Hawaii is the first state in which the legislation originated with lawmakers.

Under the new law, patients must have a qualifying condition, must obtain a recommendation from a physician for the use of marijuana, and must register with the state's Department of Public Safety; the state has not yet insti-

tuted a protocol for the registration process. Criminal penalties for marijuana possession will remain in effect for those not registered. Donald Topping of the Drug Policy Forum estimated that between 500 and 1,000 people in Hawaii will be eligible under the new system. Topping agreed with Cayetano that other states would likely follow Hawaii's lead, saying, "I think the fear of being soft on drugs is beginning to fade now with this kind of legislation being passed." ▼

Past Out

◀ previous page

liance Against Defamation got its start when some queer New Yorkers became fed up with biased mainstream media reporting about the epidemic. Both ACT UP and GLAAD grew out of meetings held at the city's gay community center, which opened in 1984.

Many national gay organizations now call Washington, D.C., home and San Francisco is still the country's gay mecca. But New York City has remained the sym-

bolic heart of the gay and lesbian rights movement. In a June 1999 ceremony in the Village, the Stonewall Inn was officially placed on the National Register of Historic Places, the first gay site in the country to be so honored. ▼

David Bianco, M.A. is the author of *Gay Essentials* (Alyson), a collection of his history columns. He can be reached care of this publication or at DaveBianco@aol.com. For more Past Out, visit www.planetout.com.

For further reading

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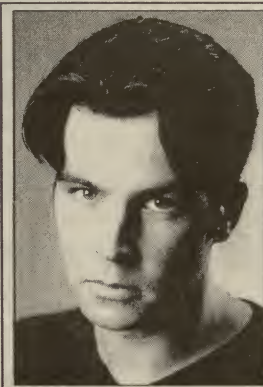
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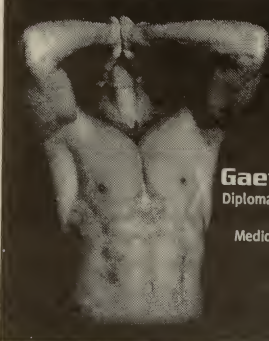
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Cheer SF turns 20

by Cynthia Laird

The cheerleaders who make up the predominantly gay group Cheer San Francisco were the focus of attention at a recent practice at the Head Over Heels Gym in Emeryville. The *Bay Area Reporter* was there to check out the action and get a cover shot for the Pride section, and KRON-TV was there to film some of the practice session for an upcoming feature in conjunction with gay Pride. It's been a busy year so far for the troupe, and promises to get even busier in this, its 20th anniversary year.

"We've gone from paper pom-poms to those that are professionally made," Steve Burke told the *B.A.R.* Burke, 42, is the captain and has been with the group 10 years, and he's been compiling scrapbooks of Cheer's many performances all over the country. "We're the world's only team like this. Celebrating diversity is part of the team's message."

Indeed, Cheer started as the Hayward Raw RaHS in 1980, when Guy Andrade, who coached high school cheerleaders in the East Bay, decided to start a cheerleading team composed of gay men. Ten years later, they became the Bay Area Raw RaHS, before changing the name to Cheer San Francisco in 1996. Today, the group of about 20 male and female members performs its crowd-pleasing extreme stunts – including human pyramids – and powerful dance routines for a variety of events.



Cheer San Francisco at a recent practice session.

The group will march in this Sunday's Pride Parade and perform on the main stage. They'll have a booth at the Pride Festival Saturday and Sunday. Cheer SF has performed at numerous venues, including college athletic events, Pride Parades in many other cities, the Millennium March on Washington, and Gay Games V in Amsterdam.

While Burke acknowledged that some in the Bay Area weren't particularly supportive of the Millennium March, he said that Cheer SF had a great time. "We represented San Francisco the way we always do, with enthusiasm and class."

And in the process, they raised some money for the Whitman-Walker Clinic in Washington, D.C. That's because the group gives money back to an organization in the community where they perform through the Cheer for Life program. At Santa Cruz Pride earlier this month, Cheer SF was able to return \$300 to the Santa Cruz AIDS Project, and they donated about \$300 to the Billy De Frank Center in San Jose following their performance at that city's Pride event a couple of weekends ago.

This weekend, Cheer will be raising money for the Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services clinic in San Francisco.

"Our goal is to give 100 percent of donations during perfor-

mances to direct care agencies," Burke said. But that's not possible yet, because Cheer SF needs some of the money to pay for expenses like their practice space, travel, and uniforms. Many of the members pay for their own expenses.

Burke said Cheer SF has been a rewarding experience for him. "I just think Cheer SF is a real gift to the community. We continue to evolve and touch lives. We just seem to fit no matter where we go and lighten things up, whether it's a political event, a festival, or a sporting event," he said.

Tryouts next month

Cheer's goal this year is to start raising money so that the group can perform at Gay Games VI in Sydney in November 2002. But they'll need to raise a lot – at least \$100,000 – and Burke said it would be great if the nonprofit organization could soon get corporate sponsorship or city funding.

"We're the only performing arts group that has performed at all five Gay Games," Burke said, adding that Cheer SF members would like to keep that tradition alive.

Besides money, Cheer SF needs people – tryouts take place next month, including three workshops where people can show up and see if they have what it takes. Burke emphasized that people

page 29 ►

Bis celebrate Pride

by Liz Highleyman

Members of San Francisco's bisexual community will celebrate Pride with several events this week.

If you picked up your *Bay Area Reporter* early, you may still have time to catch *Bi the Way*, a documentary look at bisexual communities in Boston and Washington, D.C., in the early 1990s. The film plays with *Two Spirit People* and *Honored by the Moon* as part of the San Francisco Public Library's free film series in conjunction with the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society's "Making a Case for Community" history exhibit, which includes bisexuals as one of the featured groups. *Bi the Way* plays at noon today (Thursday, June 22) in the library's Koret Auditorium.

This Friday, June 23, bisexuals have a choice of not one, but two dance parties. The fifth annual Fencesitters Ball, which has become an annual bi Pride tradition, takes place from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. at Jezebel's Joint, 510 Larkin Street in the Tenderloin. In addition to music and performances, short bi films will be shown in the upstairs screen-

ing room. The cover charge is \$10.

Across town in the Haight, Anything That Grooves Productions presents Flirt, a benefit for the national bisexual magazine *Anything That Moves*. The party will feature deejays Monkey, Rollerbishop, and Peter LaSalle, and live music by Rainbow Flava. Flirt takes place at the Peacock Lounge, 552 Haight Street, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Admission is \$6-15.

This Sunday, June 25, there will be a bisexual/*Anything That Moves* contingent in the Pride Parade. The contingent – #97 in Section I – will assemble on Beale Street between Howard and Folsom. Also, look for the *Anything That Moves* booth at the post-parade celebration at Civic Center.

Bi community leader Melissa White – a regional organizer for the BiNet USA, the largest national bisexual group; co-chair of the Harvey Milk Institute board of directors; and a program manager with Breast Cancer Action – will speak on the main stage at approximately 2:40 p.m. ▼

For more information on bi community Pride events, see www.anythingthatmoves.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS



The Mission District was teeming with lesbians at the 1998 Dyke March.

It's about lesbians

Dyke March still the fiercest thing around

by Katie Szymanski

You gotta admit, when it comes to the politics of inclusion, a grassroots base, and kick-ass fun, the girls have got it going on. And no better is this illustrated than at San Francisco's Dyke March.

It's the eight annual procession of ladies, butches, bitches, grlrs, little boys, and bulls this Saturday, June 24, and the women in charge say this year is going to be one to write home about.

"We're expecting a huge crowd," said Lisa Roth, one of the original "Damn Lesbians," the organizers of Dyke March. "As always it's the biggest and baddest lesbian event in the world. We have no politicians, no sponsors, no men, and no money but we have our independence and we are beholden to no one."

The Dyke March, now held in many cities across America, began when a group of Bay Area women at the 1993 March on Washington were lamenting the male-dominated platform of gay activism. When the idea hit them to hold a dyke march, they put the word out among their friends, contacted the Lesbian Avengers in New York, and enlisted women from ACT UP chapters around the country. They would have been happy if 1,000 people showed.

Instead 20,000 dykes descended upon Washington D.C.'s Dupont Circle for an event with no permit, one bullhorn, and a march route designed by San Francisco residents unfamiliar with the D.C. area.

"We were so unprepared but it was so wonderful," Roth recalled. "It was fun and feisty but it was also so emotional. Nobody had ever been with that many dykes before."

Realizing they had touched a chord, Roth and friends brought the march idea back to San Francisco and organized it within two months. San Francisco's 1993 Dyke March, although technically the second ever, was the first local march in the country and spawned the handful that now exist nationwide.

An estimated 50,000 people attended last year's San Francisco Dyke March, making it the largest event of its kind in the world. This year, with Pride attendance already expected to increase, the Dyke March should be even bigger. The event still refuses to get a

permit, but police are generally friendly and have come to realize, "We're very reliable," according to Roth.

The day starts with a rally in Dolores Park (at 18th Street) that features live music, comedy, and some hard-core inspirational speeches. Scheduled performers this Saturday include drag king Barrie White; musicians Carole Pope, Hail Marys, Jill Knight, Judea Eden Project, Kindness, Tulus, and Veronica Black; and favorite deejays Cari Campbell, Chili D, Deena Davenport, Edaj, Ellen Ferrato, Elyssa, Olga T. of Backstreet, Page Hodel, and LadyGFunk.

The keynote address will come from renowned dyke authors and activists Jewelle Gomez and Dorothy Allison, each almighty on their own but an electric pair when they appear together. Also speaking is Zulma, a human rights activist who will address Puerto Rico's resistance to the U.S. Navy's recent bombing "exercises" on the island of Vieques. Rally emcees are Community United Against Violence advocate Tina D'Elia and our very own famous sex adviser and party host Fairy Butch.

At 7:45, Dolores Street becomes a sea of breasts and denim, and the girls officially take over the town. The march proceeds to Valencia and up 16th to Market Street — much to the joy of cheering residents who put on a show of their own — then concludes at Castro Street where the dykes are met by a frisky crowd of all genders, ready to start the sinful weekend.

If you're new in town or visiting, you're unaware of the sick after-glow on the Castro streets at the end of the march, so bring your gloves and tools and dancing shoes if you plan on joining in on the decency crimes.

Additional after-parties include the always-packed Mango, a colorful mix of girls who normally start their drinking in the afternoons, located at the hip-hop and salsa club El Rio, at 3158 Mission Street. Kandy Bar, a new weekly dance party for lesbians, will be at the End Up, 401 Sixth Street. And Sister Spit, the reigning dykes of spoken word, will host a blow-out at the SomArts Gallery until 3 a.m. that features poetry, drag, and deejay dancing at 934 Brannan Street.

There's no denying that the dykes are a force to be reckoned with in this town, and attending

or viewing the march is the best way to see all of our identities and powers in action. ▼

The Dyke March and rally are fully wheelchair accessible, and the rally is sign interpreted. Those interested in volunteering for the march should call (415) 241-8882 or visit www.dykemarch.org. FYI — the Web site will soon begin linking the various dyke marches across the country.

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Flags in space

by Terry Beswick

Flag-dancing under a disco ball at Club Universe might be pretty cool, but flag-dancing under the stars at 25,000 feet in zero gravity must be way cool.

In the June 28 issue of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Press journal, *Leonardo*, Castro resident and interdisciplinary artist Frank Pietronigro recounts his experiences flag-dancing, creating three-dimensional "drift paintings," and other artistic experiments while floating in zero gravity aboard NASA's KC135 turbojet.

In addition to discussing his in-flight experiences in "Research Project Number 33: Investigating Creativity in a Microgravity Environment," Pietronigro recounts the story of his 10-year quest to fly from NASA's Johnson Space Center.

Research Project Number 33 was approved for flight by NASA through the 1998 NASA Reduced Gravity Student Flight Program, a project of the Texas Space Grant Consortia. The flight was also affiliated with the San Francisco Art Institute, Pietronigro's alma mater.

In his journal article, soon to be available at <http://mitpress.mit.edu/Leonardo>, Pietronigro concludes that "the transcendent quality of the creative process and creating art in space will help to keep the human spirit alive during long-term space missions."

A microgravity environment was achieved as the jet flew 42 roller-coaster like parabolic maneuvers, 25,000 feet above the Gulf



Frank Pietronigro prepares a microgravity paint applicator using pastry bags to project paint into the zero gravity space surrounding his body.

of Mexico, resulting in a series of 20-25 second intervals of weightlessness in which the artist worked.

"My immediate emotional experience, upon lifting off into weightlessness the very first time, was of a mystical nature," Pietronigro writes. "I became breathless while experiencing a sense of awe during those next few timeless moments."

For his "drift paintings," which were recorded on video, Pietronigro experimented with "eliminating the canvas" and projecting acrylic paint directly into a space surrounding the his body, using common cake-decorating utensils.

With his air-borne performance piece, "Playing the Fans," Pietronigro notes that he became "the first gay man to 'flag' in zero gravity,"

using two royal blue silk flags hand-sewn for the occasion. A Research Project 33 video is available through the artist's Web site, at www.webcastro.com/Pietronigro.

"I chose to dance within this particular site," Pietronigro says, "in order to expand the levels upon which my art operated. Engaging in authentic gay cultural production, in the form of a simple dance, symbolized for me the need to build space mission crews comprised of individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds." ▼

Frank Pietronigro will have a booth at this weekend's Pride Festival, on Larkin Street, in front of the Asian Art Museum.

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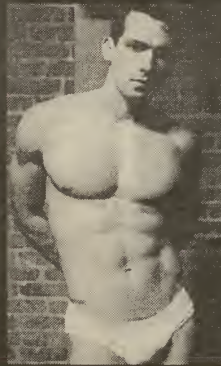


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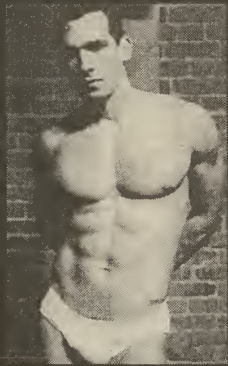
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◀ page 1

Mayor Willie Brown. Notaries will be on hand to register domestic partners; bring \$10 and your identification. The rest of Saturday's main stage lineup includes presentations by local activists and performances by Sister Guitar Band (2:55 p.m.), Rainbow Flava (4:10 p.m.), and Soul City Survivors (4:40 p.m.), to name a few attractions.

While the Pride spirit has been building all month, it tends to kick off in all its energized glory just after the Dyke March, an entirely community-based gathering held this year on Saturday, June 24 in Dolores Park. The event opens with a festival in the park at 3:30 p.m. and the march begins at 7:45 p.m.

Join thousands of topless lesbians as they take over the streets, jostle the neighbors, and eventually spill into the Castro, where Pink Saturday takes place. Although there are plenty of after parties, the Castro remains a favorite place to wrap up the night; without mentioning specific names or acts of public lewdness, expect a wild evening. And wherever you pass out on Saturday, make sure to wake up by the next morning.

The Pride Parade begins at 10:30 a.m. this Sunday, June 25, at the corner of Market and Beale streets downtown and proceeds up toward the festival at Civic Center (9th and Market), so line up within those parameters for a good look at the world's most famous LGBT event.

The main stage on Sunday opens at noon and features headliners Martha Wash (2:50 p.m.), Jimmy Somerville (3:10 p.m.), and Jennifer Holliday (3:40 p.m.), the Suhaila Salimpour Dancers (1:40 p.m.); the city's Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence (4:05 p.m.); the San

Francisco Lesbian and Gay Freedom Band (noon), the Gay Men's Chorus (12:10 p.m.), and many other local activists and artists.

Other stages at Sunday's festival are the Asian-Pacific Islander stage, the Latin stage, Electric Playground for queer youth, the Imperial Show Palace, the Country and Western stage, two dance areas, and a Swing dance floor. Check out deejays Shawn Perry and Lambchop, the GAPA dancers, the Rice Girls, and Tiger Lily on the API stage, celebrity grand marshal Margaret Cho will grace the API stage at about 4:20 p.m. The Latin stage will feature chart-toppers Sonique, Amber, and Eiffel 65, deejays Salvador of Club Papi, Yvette Fuentes of Backstreet, Marco of Esta Noche, and Chili D from Colors.

"The diversity of our participants and events for our 30th anniversary sets a new standard," according to Pride's Witherington. With this year's extra stages and additional talent there's nothing missing from the new century's first San Francisco Pride celebration.

Remember, a \$3 donation is requested at the gates. The Pride celebration on Saturday and Sunday can be reached via public transportation on BART (exit Civic Center), CALTRAIN (exit at the last stop on Fourth Street), and the Muni Metro system (all trains exit at Civic Center). ▼

Inside Pride gives specific locations and times of additional events at Pride. Tickets for the film festival are available at Castro and Market. For more information on the Dyke March, see the feature story on page 15. Pride questions can be directed to (415) 864-0831, or try www.sfpride.org.

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Medical pot clubs of SF and beyond

by Terry Beswick

It ain't Amsterdam – at least not yet.

San Francisco can't compare its liberal mores to the Dutch city's even-more-liberal attitudes toward the intoxicating drug commonly referred to hereabouts as "pot." Indeed, the city's populace and, increasingly, its political leaders have long been a hotbed of support for fans of the relatively harmless plant – particularly when those who smoke it or ingest it are using it medicinally to alleviate a variety of physiological conditions.

This Sunday, several local medical marijuana dispensaries and other supporters of marijuana decriminalization will be contingent #159 in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Parade – right behind the contingent for District Attorney Terence Hallinan. If the wind is blowing in the right direction, the D.A. could possibly even get a little contact high going. No word on whether the medical pot supporters are concerned about exhaust fumes from the D.A.'s motorcade. (Medical cannabis supporters are being encouraged to show up around 11:30 a.m. on Beale between Harrison and Folsom streets).

San Francisco is still in America, a country that classifies cannabis as a schedule I controlled substance, meaning it has "no accepted medical use in treatment in the United States."

While the research has not really been done to prove all of mar-



The staff of the San Francisco Patients' Resource Center, outside their Divisadero Street office.

jjuana's potential medical uses, the U.S. classification has been clearly contradicted in a scientific summary report from the esteemed quasi-governmental Institute of Medicine (available at www.drugsense.org/iom_report).

And according to a recent review of Department of Justice records conducted by marijuana legalization advocates, an estimated 59,300 prisoners charged with

or convicted of violating marijuana laws are behind bars in the U.S. at any one time.

Proposition 215, passed by California voters in 1996, made the cultivation and possession of marijuana for personal medicinal use legal in this state, provided a user has the written or oral "recommendation" or approval from a physician "who has determined that the person's health would

benefit from the use of marijuana in the treatment of cancer, anorexia, AIDS, chronic pain, spasticity, glaucoma, arthritis, migraine, or any other illness for which marijuana provides relief." The measure was codified in the California Health and Safety Code, Section 11362.5.

While the San Francisco district attorney's office makes prosecution of marijuana-related offenses a very low priority, police harassment and arrests of people found using or in possession of marijuana are not uncommon in San Francisco and throughout the state. Hallinan was himself a strong supporter of 215, which is slowly being implemented as city, state, and federal authorities struggle to interpret the law.

Smoking pot 101

Generally, if you're going to smoke pot, it is advisable to find a doctor who will recommend in writing that you use it, and that you then carry this recommendation with you. And, as added protection, become a card-carrying member of one of the larger marijuana dispensaries listed below.

Next month, cards from the individual clubs could become less necessary as the San Francisco Department of Public Health is expected to begin issuing identification cards for a small fee to patients and caregivers. If the program is successfully implemented, the ID cards will be honored by many of the individual clubs, and are more likely to stave off local police harassment, given the city health department's imprimatur.

Conversely, however, not having a card could be seen as an implication of guilt, i.e. being a plain old pothead with no legitimate medical need.

While the government has stymied most research into the medical uses of cannabis, the drug has been shown to effectively treat nausea and vomiting, stimulate appetite, alleviate pain and muscle spasms, and other conditions.

The Proposition 215 campaign was based in San Francisco in a building at 1444 Market Street, sharing space with the legendary Cannabis Buyers Club, founded in 1991.

Many of those who worked with Proposition 215 author Dennis Peron – who now maintains a

large marijuana farm in Lake County – and others who ran the groundbreaking campaign from the much-raided, now-defunct medical marijuana club have since hung out their own shingles, opening up dispensaries in storefronts and office spaces throughout San Francisco.

"It was like Ma Bell when it broke up, and now we have all these nice little clubs," said Wayne Justmann of the San Francisco Patients' Resource Center, who has been a leader in the medical marijuana movement.

While Justmann's group and a few others are quite open about their activities, they primarily use Web sites, press reports, and word-of-mouth to advertise their businesses. And some of the pot clubs do not like to give out too much information for publication – indeed, there are quite a number of pot dealers in San Francisco who remain distrustful of the authorities, and stay entirely underground, preferring to sell to their customers whether they can prove a medical need or not.

All the dispensaries listed below require some form of documentation to verify that buyers have a legitimate medical need for the marijuana, but from there, the clubs differ widely. Some assure confidentiality, while others do not guarantee it, so it is a good idea to inquire about policies and procedures to protect your identity if that is a concern.

Several of the so-called "clubs" operating in San Francisco are formally registered as nonprofits or have been taken under the wing of older nonprofits in order to establish their tax-exempt status with the Internal Revenue Service. Judging by their outward appearance, whether technically nonprofit or not, most operate like any other small business or health-related community organization, employing on-site staffs ranging in size from one to 25 and up.

With one notable exception, all of the clubs are either apolitical or restrict their political activities to medicinal marijuana and marijuana legalization.



ACT UP/San Francisco's office, which houses its medical marijuana club.

ACT UP/San Francisco

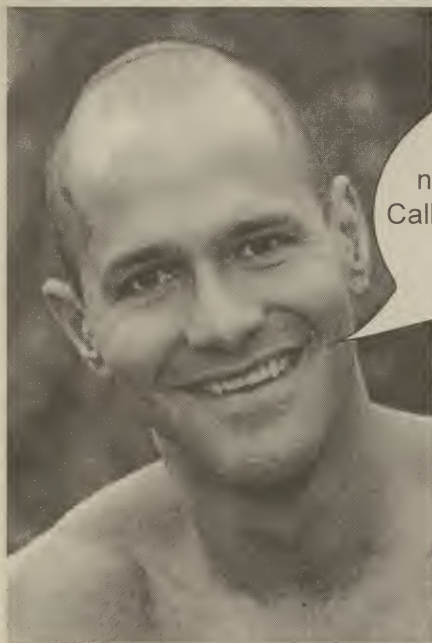
A few years back, the current members of ACT UP/San Francisco were selling a photochemical called DNCB, which was painted in patches on the body to try to elicit an immune response. These days, the direct action group is selling a much better researched – and much more profitable – treatment alternative.

The sign hanging out front of the building at 1884 Market Street at Laguna reads, "ACT UP Community Space," and the wheelchair-accessible ground level is open to the public for the pur-

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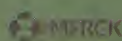
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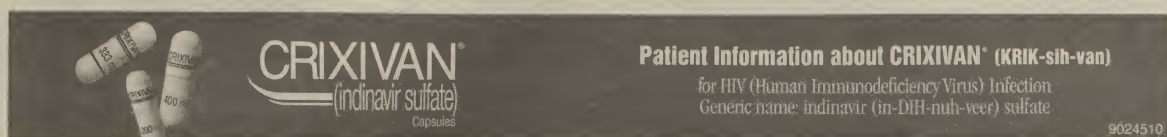
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As with other protease inhibitors, changes in body fat, increased bleeding in some patients with hemophilia, and increased blood sugar levels or diabetes have been reported. Additionally, severe muscle pain and weakness have occurred in patients also taking cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins." There are some common medications and AIDS-related medications you should not take with CRIXIVAN. Discuss all medications you are taking or plan to take with your doctor. For more detailed information about CRIXIVAN, please read the information immediately following this advertisement.

¹ Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV Infection, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), May 5, 1999.

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(indinavir sulfate)
Capsules



Please read this information before you start taking CRIXIVAN. Also, read the leaflet each time you renew your prescription, just in case anything has changed. Remember, this leaflet does not take the place of careful discussions with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss CRIXIVAN when you start taking your medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when using CRIXIVAN and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

What is CRIXIVAN?

CRIXIVAN is an oral capsule used for the treatment of HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). CRIXIVAN is a type of HIV drug called a protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor.

How does CRIXIVAN work?

CRIXIVAN is a protease inhibitor that fights HIV. CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 (T) cell count. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

CRIXIVAN is usually prescribed with other anti-HIV drugs such as ZDV (also called AZT), 3TC, ddI, ddC, or d4T. CRIXIVAN works differently from these other anti-HIV drugs. Talk with your doctor about how you should take CRIXIVAN.

CRIXIVAN has been studied in adults. The safety and effectiveness of CRIXIVAN in children and adolescents have not been established.

How should I take CRIXIVAN?

There are six important things you must do to help you benefit from CRIXIVAN:

1. **Take CRIXIVAN capsules every day as prescribed by your doctor.** Continue taking CRIXIVAN unless your doctor tells you to stop. Take the exact amount of CRIXIVAN that your doctor tells you to take, right from the very start. To help make sure you will benefit from CRIXIVAN, you must not skip doses or take "drug holidays". If you don't take CRIXIVAN as prescribed, the activity of CRIXIVAN may be reduced (due to resistance).
 2. **Take CRIXIVAN capsules every 8 hours around the clock, every day.** It may be easier to remember to take CRIXIVAN if you take it at the same time every day. If you have questions about when to take CRIXIVAN, your doctor or health care provider can help you decide what schedule works for you.
 3. **If you miss a dose by more than 2 hours, wait and then take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time.** However, if you miss a dose by less than 2 hours, take your missed dose immediately. Then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of CRIXIVAN at any one time.
 4. **Take CRIXIVAN with water.** You can also take CRIXIVAN with other beverages such as skim or non-fat milk, juice, coffee, or tea.
 5. **Ideally, take each dose of CRIXIVAN without food but with water at least one hour before or two hours after a meal.** Or you can take CRIXIVAN with a light meal. Examples of light meals include: dry toast with jelly, juice, and coffee (with skim or non-fat milk and sugar if you want) corn flakes with skim or non-fat milk and sugar.
- Do not take CRIXIVAN at the same time as any meals that are high in calories, fat, and protein (for example — a bacon and egg breakfast). When taken at the same time as CRIXIVAN, these foods can interfere with CRIXIVAN being absorbed into your bloodstream and may lessen its effect.
6. **It is critical that you drink at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquids (preferably water) throughout the day, every day. CRIXIVAN can cause kidney stones.** Having enough fluids in your body should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

Does CRIXIVAN cure HIV or AIDS?

CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking CRIXIVAN may still develop infections or other conditions associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important for you to remain under the care of a doctor. Although CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses, including death, associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

Does CRIXIVAN reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

CRIXIVAN has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Who should not take CRIXIVAN?

Do not take CRIXIVAN if you have had a serious allergic reaction to CRIXIVAN or any of its components.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor if:

- You are pregnant or if you become pregnant while you are taking CRIXIVAN. We do not yet know how CRIXIVAN affects pregnant women or their developing babies.
 - You are breast-feeding. You should stop breast-feeding if you are taking CRIXIVAN.
- Also talk to your doctor if you have:
- Problems with your liver, especially if you have mild or moderate liver disease caused by cirrhosis.
 - Problems with your kidneys.
 - Diabetes
 - Hemophilia
 - High cholesterol and you are taking cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins".

Tell your doctor about any medicines you are taking or plan to take, including non-prescription medicines.

This medication was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep CRIXIVAN and all medicines out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

This leaflet provides a summary of information about CRIXIVAN. If you have any questions or concerns about either CRIXIVAN or HIV, talk to your doctor.

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003424(3)(510)-CRX-COIN

Patient Information about CRIXIVAN® (KRIK-sih-van)

for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection
Generic name: indinavir (in-DIH-nuh-veer) sulfate

9024510

Can CRIXIVAN be taken with other medications?*

Drugs you should not take with CRIXIVAN:

SELDANE® (terfenadine)	HISMANAL® (astemizole)
VERSED® (midazolam)	HALCION® (triazolam)
PROPULSID® (cisapride)	Ergot medications (e.g., Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

Taking CRIXIVAN with the above medications could result in serious or life-threatening problems (such as irregular heartbeat or excessive sleepiness).

In addition, you should not take CRIXIVAN with rifampin, known as RIFADIN®, RIFAMATE®, RIFATER®, or RIMACTANE®.

Drugs you can take with CRIXIVAN include:

RETROVIR® (zidovudine, ZDV also called AZT)	EPIVIR® (lamivudine, 3TC)
ZERIT® (stavudine, d4T)	isoniazid (INH)
BACTRIM®/SEPTA® (trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole)	DIFLUCAN® (fluconazole)
BIAXIN® (clarithromycin)	ORTHO-NOVUM 1/35® (oral contraceptive)
TAGAMET® (cimetidine)	Methadone

VIDEX® (didanosine, ddI) — If you take CRIXIVAN with VIDEX®, take them at least one hour apart.

MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin) — If you take CRIXIVAN with MYCOBUTIN®, your doctor may adjust both the dose of MYCOBUTIN and the dose of CRIXIVAN.

NIZORAL® (ketoconazole) — If you take CRIXIVAN with NIZORAL®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.

RESCRIPTOR® (delavirdine) — If you take CRIXIVAN with RESCRIPTOR®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.

SPORANOX® (itraconazole) — If you take CRIXIVAN with SPORANOX®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.

SUSTIVA® (efavirenz) — If you take CRIXIVAN with SUSTIVA®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.

Talk to your doctor about any medications you are taking.

What are the possible side effects of CRIXIVAN?

Like all prescription drugs, CRIXIVAN can cause side effects. The following is not a complete list of side effects reported with CRIXIVAN when taken either alone or with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN developed kidney stones. In some of these patients this led to more severe kidney problems, including kidney failure or inflammation of the kidneys. Drinking at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) each day should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had rapid breakdown of red blood cells (hemolytic anemia) which in some cases was severe or resulted in death.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had liver problems including liver failure and death. Some patients had other illnesses or were taking other drugs. It is uncertain if CRIXIVAN caused these liver problems.

Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors. In some of these patients, this led to ketoacidosis, a serious condition caused by poorly controlled blood sugar. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients required adjustments to their diabetes medication. Others needed new diabetes medication.

In some patients with hemophilia, increased bleeding has been reported.

Severe muscle pain and weakness have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors, including CRIXIVAN, together with some of the cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins." Call your doctor if you develop severe muscle pain or weakness.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking protease inhibitors. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs and arms may also happen. The cause and long term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

Clinical Studies

Increases in bilirubin (one laboratory test of liver function) have been reported in approximately 10% of patients. Usually, this finding has not been associated with liver problems. However, on rare occasions, a person may develop yellowing of the skin and/or eyes.

Side effects occurring in 2% or more of patients included: abdominal pain, fatigue or weakness, flank pain, feeling unwell, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, acid regurgitation, loss of appetite, dry mouth, back pain, headache, trouble sleeping, dizziness, taste changes, rash, upper respiratory infection, dry skin, and sore throat.

Swollen kidneys due to blocked urine flow occurred rarely.

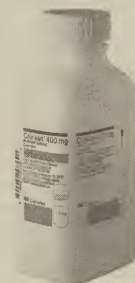
Marketing Experience

Other side effects reported since CRIXIVAN has been marketed include: allergic reactions; severe skin reactions; yellowing of the skin and/or eyes; heart problems including heart attack; abdominal swelling; indigestion; inflammation of the kidneys; inflammation of the pancreas; joint pain; depression; itching; hives; change in skin color; hair loss; ingrown toenails with or without infection; crystals in the urine; painful urination; and numbness of the mouth.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual symptoms. If the condition persists or worsens, seek medical attention.

How should I store CRIXIVAN capsules?

- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules in the bottle they came in and at room temperature (59°-86°F).
- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules dry by leaving the small desiccant "pillow" in the bottle. Keep the bottle closed.



CRIXIVAN®
(indinavir sulfate)
Capsules

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West Point, PA 19486, USA

COMMUNITY NEWS

Pot clubs

◀ page 18

chase of medical marijuana, or simply to use the restroom and peruse AIDS dissident literature. Push the security buzzer out front Tuesdays through Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The group requires new medical marijuana clients to present a "letter of diagnosis and a government photo ID." Call ahead for an intake appointment at (415) 864-6686.

Among all the medical marijuana dispensaries currently operating in San Francisco, the one housed in the gated, black-painted, graffiti-tagged storefront - on the other end of the block from the currently-under-construction LGBT Community Center - is the most political and the most controversial with interests ranging far beyond providing compassionate access to good, cheap dope for medical purposes.

Their medical marijuana dispensary sells a wide range of cannabis of various qualities and prices, and grossed about \$1.6 million in their first year, employing about a dozen members of ACT UP/San Francisco, and helping fund their far-reaching political agenda - driven by their immutable conviction that HIV does not cause AIDS, an agenda perhaps best left to them to explain (www.actupsf.com).

A self-described anarchist group, ACT UP/San Francisco is not incorporated, nonprofit or otherwise. Last fall, however, several ACT UP/San Francisco members quietly formed a business entity called GTT Trust, which borrowed several hundred thousand dollars from a local venture capitalist who likes to invest in the HIV dissident cause, using the money to buy the commercial/residential building that houses all of the group's activities.

CHAMP

Cannabis Helping Alleviate Medical Problems is conveniently located at 194 Church Street in San Francisco, at 14th and Market streets, right across the street from the Church Street Safeway.

CHAMP says it is a "not-for-profit organization dedicated to supporting people with life-and/or sense-threatening illnesses and other medical conditions where cannabis use is indicated by a licensed physician."

Although the group would not reveal its total budget, it is likely doing a brisk business, as it currently employs about 25 people. CHAMP's total client base also was not available; the club issues its membership cards for use not only at CHAMP, but at several other local clubs as evidence of eligibility to use medical marijuana under Proposition 215. Unlike most San Francisco dispensaries, however, it does not honor cards issued by other clubs, including the widely-accepted Oakland Cannabis Buyer's Club cards.

At intake, CHAMP requires clients to present a California ID, and a letter of diagnosis from a physician recommending marijuana for treatment and agreeing to monitor the patient's ongoing care. The club provides a form letter which clients may use for this purpose.

"We provide a safe and comfortable environment where members can use their cannabis in a social and supportive setting without the risk of potential harm," states the club's Web site.

CHAMP is open Mondays through Fridays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and on weekends from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., new clients must make an intake appointment before making a purchase. Intake

appointments are scheduled in advance on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For an intake appointment or other information, call (415) 861-1040, or go to www.champsf.org.

The Hemp Center

Located at 2533 Balboa Avenue, this neighborhood group sells ecologically-sound hemp products. Call (415) 221-HEMP for more information.

The Hope Center

Also a smaller operation, the Hope Center is run by two law students in the Warfield Building at 988 Market Street, Suite 406. The club is open Mondays through Saturdays from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Call (415) 929-8367 for more information.

Howard Street Harm Reduction Center

Ken Hayes, formerly of CHAMP, runs this recently-opened center at 1017 Howard between 6th and 7th streets. Hours of operation for the club are Monday through Saturday from 1 to 7 p.m. Call (415) 575-9790 for more information.

Market Street Club

With its convenient Castro neighborhood location, this club has definitely got an edge on convenience, at least for people who live in the Castro.

From its second floor office at 2340 Market between Noe and Castro streets, the Market Street Club has been operated as a sole proprietorship (i.e. for-profit business) by Jim Green since late 1997, making it the oldest surviving club in the city.

Green's mission, he told the *Bay Area Reporter*, is "to provide high quality medical marijuana to all qualifying 215-ers."

According to Green, prices run 10-15 percent higher than other local clubs, but he claims that the quality of his exclusively California-grown no-stems green herb is better than most. "I only sell the best I can find," he said, adding that edibles are available by special order.

While there are no standing discount policies for those with low incomes, the "obviously destitute" might get a good deal, Green said.

Closed Sundays and Mondays, Green's club is open for business Tuesdays through Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Fridays 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and by appointment.

Currently, the Market Street Club does not honor memberships obtained at other clubs; potential clients must present a letter of diagnosis and a recommendation to use marijuana from a licensed medical doctor, and state or federal photo ID.

Green said that he does plan to honor the ID cards to be issued this summer by the San Francisco DPH, with one caveat: "The client will have to prove to me that their letter of diagnosis did not come from one of these recommendation mills the other clubs use," he said.

For more information, call (415) 861-1864.

San Francisco Patients' & Caregivers' Health Center

Also known as the Mission Street Club, this medical marijuana dispensary is located at 1933 Mission between 15th and 16th streets.

This club is open only for a few hours Monday through Friday, from 5 to 8 p.m.

The club asks that new clients be 18 or older, and present a state-issued picture ID and written doctor's recommendation.

In addition to top-grade California-grown (7A) and lower grade marijuana, the club also sells "Space Cakes," banana nut bread with special spicing; "Cosmic Cocktails," a cold cannabis and orange beverage billed as "America's first psychoactive beverage since the tax act;" and tinctures of marijuana extract in alcohol.

The club's Web site offers some compelling patient testimonials:

"I successfully quit using tobacco, alcohol, and caffeine substances, now I smoke the high quality marijuana (7A), and I feel a lot healthier. It also turns me on sexually," said Kathy.

"I'm 84 years old, and I smoke marijuana to relieve my nausea from chemotherapy, also the staff are very friendly and outgoing," offered Andrew.

"I suffer from depression, and before coming to Patients & Caregivers I lived in a deep dark hole,

but now after smoking 7A, I get naked and run around the city," stated Matie.

For more information, call (415) 701-9537 or visit the club's Web site at www.medicalmarijuana.com.

San Francisco Patients' Resource Center

Less than a year old, this club at 350 Divisadero Street is already one of the most established clubs in San Francisco, with between 125 and 150 clients each day, and about 25 full- and part-time employees.

The St. Martin de Pores Dispensary (also known as St. Martin's Dispensary) operates as a separate entity on the site in partnership with the SFPRC, both under the nonprofit umbrella of St. Ephraim's House of the Orthodox Catholic Synod of the Syro-Chaldean Rite Church.

SFPRC's founders, who had been closely involved in passage of Proposition 215, staged a picket against the San Francisco DPH several weeks ago, complaining that they had not been included in the development of the new ID program; they have since been regularly updated on DPH's plans for the system, and plan to honor the cards when they are issued.

With seven or eight varieties in stock, prices range from \$5 to \$50 for a gram of cannabis, depending, of course, on the quality.

"The quality is up and the prices are down. What's happening is growers are realizing who we're selling to," Justmann told the *B.A.R.* on June 17. "Dennis [Peron] is going to have a really great crop this year."

Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, from 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., and on weekends from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m.

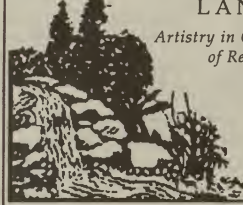
For more information, call

(415) 552-8648, or visit the group's Web site at www.sfprc.org.

Other Northern California dispensaries and support groups

- Berkeley Cannabis Coop - (510) 486-1025
- Berkeley Patients' Group - (510) 540-6013
- Humboldt County: Arcata CBC - (707) 825-0839
- Laytonville: Redwood Herbal Collective - (707) 984-7440
- Marin Alliance for Medical MJ - (415) 256-9328
- Mendocino: Ukiah CBC - (707) 462-0691
- Oakland CBC - (510) 832-5346, or check out www.rxcbc.org
- Petaluma: Genesis 1:29 - (707) 789-0527, www.genesis129.org
- Plumas County: Feather River Coop - (530) 283-4517
- Santa Cruz Wo/Men's Alliance for Medical MJ - (831) 423-5413, www.wamm.org
- Santa Cruz Cannabis Pharmaceuticals - (831) 460-0420, or www.santacruzcannabispharmaceuticals.com
- Santa Cruz Med Ex Delivery Service - (831) 425-3444
- Santa Cruz Compassion Flower Inn: Bed & Breakfast for Prop. 215 Patients - (831) INN-0420, or www.compassionflowerinn.com
- Sonoma Alliance for Med MJ - (707) 522-0292
- Stockton: Angel Wings Patient Outreach - (209) 474-1705, or visit www.AngelWingsPatients.homestead.com/AngelWings.html
- Ventura County Alliance for Marijuana Patients - (805) 388-0551
- Yuba County CBC - (530) 679-2778

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Circumcision and risk of HIV

by Bob Roehr

How does male circumcision protect against HIV infection?" asked a provocative article in the June 10 edition of the *British Medical Journal*. The authors were Dr. Robert Szabo, and Dr. Roger Short, both on the faculty of medical universities in Melbourne, Australia.

"There is now compelling epidemiological evidence from over 40 studies which shows that male circumcision provides significant protection against HIV infection; circumcised males are two to eight times less likely to become infected with HIV," they wrote. This applies to other sexually transmitted diseases as well.

The most influential data comes from a study in Uganda led by Dr. Thomas Quinn, of Johns Hopkins University. For 30 months they followed 187 heterosexual men who were HIV-negative but their female partners were HIV-positive. Safer sex training and condoms were provided. Nonetheless, 40 of the 137 uncircumcised men became infected, while none of the 50 circumcised men became infected with HIV.

These findings were presented at the retroviral conference in San Francisco in January and later published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Szabo and Short said, regardless of whether circumcised or not, much of the penis is "keratinized," or covered by a tough outer layer of cells that offers bar-

rier protection against STDs. The major exception is the inside of the foreskin, which is pulled down the shaft of the penis during sex, exposing it to pathogens. The other, smaller vulnerable point is the distal urethra, the opening in the penis where urine and semen exit.

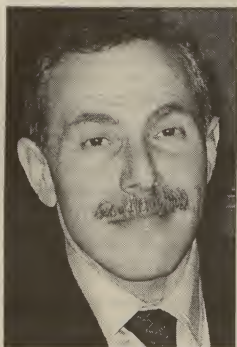
Both areas contain large quantities of Langerhans' cells. This is the type of cell initially infected in both the vagina and foreskin of monkey models used to study HIV. The same viral entry process has been seen in human tissue cultures in the lab.

"It may also be time to re-think the definition of 'safe sex,' the authors concluded. "Mutual male masturbation during which a penis [particularly of uncircumcised males] is exposed to the potentially infected semen of another male should be regarded as risky sexual behavior."

Dr. Jeffrey Martin, agreed that semen can be "very infectious material." He urges that precautions be taken "to prevent infectious material from coming into contact with any type of mucous membranes."

But at the same time, HIV prevention research from the University of California at San Francisco has shown that all risk is relative. A distinction has to be made between masturbation that risks exposure to semen and that which does not.

Terje Anderson, executive director of the National Association of People With AIDS, acknowledged that there may be some risk



Dr. Kenneth Mayer

of exposure through mutual masturbation. And while he believes that risk is significantly less than many other sexual practices, he says, "It probably is wise not to use another man's cum as a lubricant to masturbate, particularly if you are uncircumcised."

Dr. Kenneth Mayer said transmission through masturbation is "biologically plausible." He is a researcher at Brown University who also is affiliated with Fenway Community Health, which serves gays and lesbians in Boston.

But he added, "It is irresponsible to extrapolate too broadly" from Quinn's research on heterosexual transmission. There are a wide variety of factors that can affect the amount of HIV in semen, as well as the vulnerability of the person exposed to the virus.

"I know of no data on trans-

mission by mutual masturbation, other than the fact that a number of gay men have obviously become infected with HIV without ever having had anal intercourse," said Short. "How did they become infected? It will be very difficult to get any data, although for starters we are trying to record the circumcision status of HIV positive gay men."

Foreskin advocates flocked to the *British Medical Journal* Web site to castigate the article. They wrote the vast majority of the 27 responses posted the first week.

"Although circumcision helps you [avoid infection], it is only a relative thing," said Martin. "Most men in this country are circumcised and there certainly has been plenty of HIV transmission in gay men."

"People want blanket assurances, they want specific num-

bers," said Mayer. "And it is very hard to do that kind of research and do it ethically." He compared it to the uncertainty surrounding the risk of oral sex when he said, "If people better understand the biology [of transmission], then hopefully they can make informed decisions" of the acts that they will and will not do.

Perhaps there is a silver lining to the cloud of possible HIV infection through masturbation. Current data assumes that those who did not have risk of exposure through unprotected anal or vaginal sex, or through shared needles or blood products, must have become infected through oral sex. Attributing some of these infections to masturbation would mean that oral sex is an even less risky route of transmission than had been thought previously. ▼

California poll

◀ page 3

that same-sex couples suffer obstacles and hardships because they lack the legal protections, benefits, and responsibilities of marriage.

Younger Californians tended to be much more aware of discrimination and more supportive of equal rights for gays and lesbians. Nearly two-thirds of 18 to 29-year-olds believe gays and lesbians are discriminated against, while only half of Californians over 40 believe so.

"On every single issue, Californian's attitudes are moving in the right direction for the gay and lesbian community," said Meadow. "Passage of the Knight initiative might well have been the last gasp of a dying breed of anti-gay politics in California. The irony is that while voters may not be ready to recognize same-sex marriage, they see it as inevitable, a finding supported by the differences between the older and younger generations."

Details from last year's polling results were not widely released; the results were donated by Horizons to the No on Knight campaign, which chose to keep them largely secret from the media and their opponents. The campaign used the data as the foundation for the campaign's strategy, which attempted to shift the message away from the subject of gay marriage – the intended target of Proposition 22 – and toward a recognition of the unfair treatment of gay and lesbian couples.

This year pollsters asked a new question of Californians. Pressed

as to whether they would actually support a new law that would legalize "civil unions" for gay and lesbian couples and give them all the rights and responsibilities of marriage – while still reserving the term marriage for unions between a man and a woman – respondents were closely divided, despite the conceptual support for same-sex unions.

Just 47 percent said they were in favor of such a law, and 44 percent said they were opposed – a split that held true across all age groups.

And there's the rub: the poll reveals a deep-seated disconnect between understanding what is equitable and fair on the one hand, and what people believe should actually be done about it.

Marshall attributes this gap to the fact that the terminology being used is still unfamiliar for most Californians, and suggests that it reaffirms his campaign's strategy of shaping the message by carefully choosing the words and phrases to be presented to voters.

According to some political analysts, changing the terminology used to refer to committed, loving couples might make all the difference for Californians, as it did for the Vermont Legislature in April. Legislators there opted for the separate-but-equal "civil union" model over extending the right to "marry" to same-sex couples.

"We've got to stop talking about 'same-sex marriage' and 'gay marriage,'" Marshall told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We have to start talking about the 'freedom to marry,' so that people understand that it is a right that is being denied." ▼

Living with HIV/AIDS? Currently under treatment? Changing your regimen? What to do with those surplus medications...

All of your surplus medications can be put to use saving lives in Africa. The use of surplus medications for the treatment of HIV/AIDS in Africa has saved hundreds of lives to date. AIDSETI and the AAN, have strict guidelines for the use of surplus medications and our volunteer staff are licensed medical professionals. We are currently treating people in six African countries and are seeking the following medications.

If you have any of these medications in surplus:

AZT; Acyclovir, Epivir* (3tc), Stavudine (D4T), Combivir; Sustiva, DDI Videx, HIVID, Viramune, Hydrea; Gancyclovir and all Protease Inhibitors—Agenerase, Crixivan, Saquinavir, Viracept; Rescriptor and all class of Antibiotics; Diflucan*

*These medications are needed most. Please no Narcotics, Antianxiety, Antidepressants or sleeping medication.

Please call or visit one of the drop off locations below:

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San Francisco, CA 94114
Steve Marlowe (415) 863-4434

Whitman Walker Clinic
1701 14th St. NW
Washington, DC 20009
Michael Relf (202) 745-6149

ALBO
1318 Walnut St., 3rd floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Drop in Health Services
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Late night rally

◀ page 3

the recent concerns faced by all clubs.

Club promoter Terrance Allan said he's very concerned the security mandate at 1015 is just the beginning.

"This is a concerted plan to shut down San Francisco at 2 a.m.," Allan said. "If they had their choice it would be midnight."

One of the rallygoers, Lois Garcia, said she felt so strongly about protecting the late night clubs that she volunteered to assist with security at the rally. She believes the clubs enhance, not detract, from public safety.

"It's pure politics that's driving the closing of the clubs," Garcia said. "It's more unsafe to

dump everybody on the streets at 2 a.m. than to let them stay in the club that is no longer serving alcohol. Let them stay in the club drinking water and getting themselves back in shape to go home."

San Francisco Police Southern District Captain Sylvia Harper told the *B.A.R.* that it's not the goal of the Police Department to shut down the clubs but simply to make a safer environment for everyone. She believes 1015's tough new security procedures ultimately benefit clubgoers and she disagrees with some who say it may keep people away.

"I don't think it will hurt business, I think it will help it," Harper said. "It reassures parents their kids are going to a safe place and overall makes for a better clientele." ▼

COMMUNITY NEWS

Hate crimes

◀ page 1

was reason to believe that local officials were not adequately pursuing such crimes.

A lesser measure offered by Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, would not include disability or sexual orientation as protected groups. It would study them for possible future inclusion. Hatch said, "There is little evidence that a broad federalization of hate crimes is warranted." It passed 50-49.

HRC urged senators to vote against the Hatch amendment and for the Kennedy-Smith amendment. Last year they had been content to say that Hatch's proposal did not go far enough but did not actively oppose it.

Earlier in the day Smith argued that once a Republican senator voted for the Hatch proposal, he or she was free to vote for the Kennedy-Smith bill. That is what happened as 13 Republicans joined all but one Democrat, Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia, in supporting the measure.

The White House had campaigned hard for the bill. Vice President Al Gore had broken off campaigning in Kentucky to return to Washington in anticipation of voting in the case of a tie.

Stachelberg said the Hatch and Kennedy-Smith bills "are not mutually exclusive. There clearly are ways that the two can be melded to make a better bill."

News conference

Supporters of the bill had waged an aggressive public campaign, including a column by Smith in the June 19 edition of the *Washington Post*. They followed up with a news conference on the morning of the vote.

"It's an embarrassment that we haven't already acted to close these glaring gaps," Kennedy said. "Current federal laws are clearly inadequate. They don't apply at all to hate crimes based on sexual orientation, gender, or disability. And they contain excessively narrow restrictions in the case of hate crimes based on race, religion, or ethnic background."

"I want to be honest with you," said co-sponsor Smith, "If the words sexual orientation were not a part of this bill, we wouldn't be having this debate, we would have a near unanimous vote."

Smith addressed religious conservatives when he said, "The founder of the Christian religion shamed the sanctimonious of his day into dropping their stones, and we can do the same. We no more endorse the lifestyle today than he did in his day. We should stand in opposition to violence, against all people, no matter what their uniquenesses are."

Senator Richard Durbin (D-Illinois) said, "Every time the issue of human rights comes before the chamber, those on the other side always, always argue that it is a matter of states rights. They never stand to defend prejudice, or bigotry, or hatred."

Senator Arlen Specter (R-Pennsylvania) said that the legislation "has gotten a substantial boost forward over the last years" by the deaths of James Byrd and Matthew Shepard, and the recent passage of hate crimes legislation in New York State. "Gays are not being singled out," he said, "the thrust is equal protection."

"We are not going to stop hate crimes by gathering more statistics and doing more studies," said Senator Ron Wyden (D-Oregon) criticizing the Hatch approach. "We are going to stop hate crimes by having the partnership that mobilizes state and local officials, backed

up by the federal government."

"I once thought that all crimes were hate crimes," said Laramie, Wyoming police Commander David O'Malley. He changed his mind after participating in the investigation of Shepard's murder. "I've never seen a clearer example of hate-motivated crime and the negative ramifications it has had on our society," O'Malley said.

He said that the Albany County Sheriff's Department had to furlough five deputies "due to the costs associated with investigating and prosecuting" Shepard's killers. He urged passage of the bill as a way to bring added resources to local law enforcement in combating hate crimes.

Wade Henderson, executive director of the Leadership Council on Civil Rights, called the Kennedy-Smith bill the organization's "top priority." He said there are two compelling reasons for its passage. "First, civil rights has to be measured by a single yardstick." Second, "it fills the gaps that

exist in current law."

Last year the Senate simultaneously passed both Kennedy's and Hatch's versions of hate crimes legislation by unanimous consent and without debate as amendments to the appropriations bill for the departments of Commerce, State, and Justice. The House did not act on similar legislation and the matter died in conference.

It seems unlikely that the House will formally vote on a hate crimes bill this year. But Republicans may seek political protection from charges of being anti-gay by allowing a floor vote, or perhaps by acquiescing to the Senate when the bill goes to conference.

Stoking Stachelberg's optimism is the fact that "many Republican senators who are in tough re-election races voted for this measure. I think it is a winning campaign issue and we need to work closely with both Republican and Democratic supporters in the House to come up with something that fits their needs." ▼

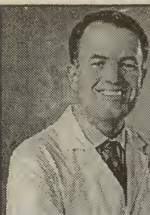
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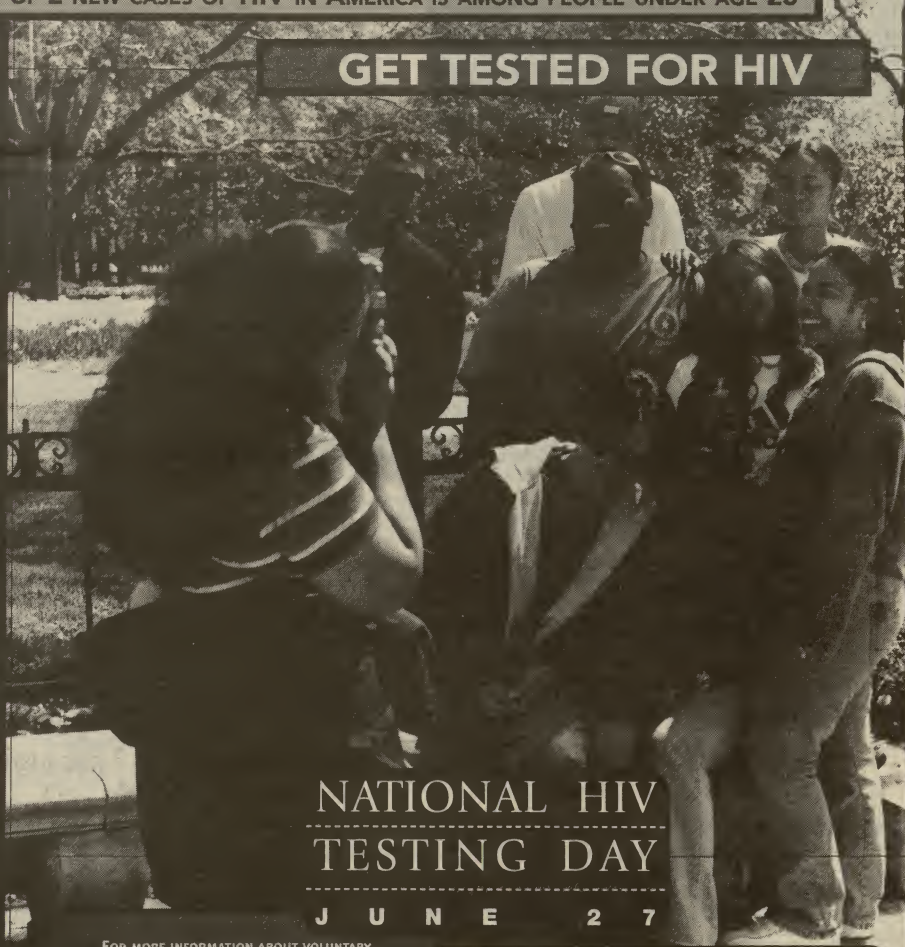
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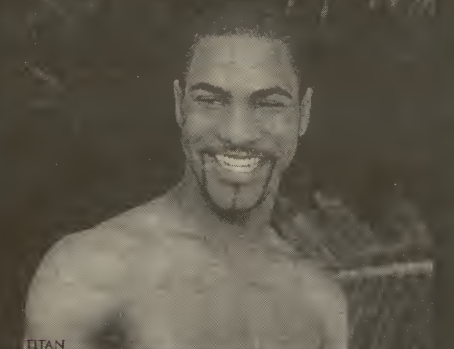
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The perfect sturm

by Jim Provenzano

I had to leave San Francisco to love it.

First BART stop, Oakland, which can be a hassle on a weekend, since you have to change at MacArthur or Nebula 5.

But I was determined. Having been promised hot toddies afterward in a knell behind Angel Island, I wanted to go boating, particularly with my captain, a fellow activist emeritus. I'd always wanted to partake of the bay in a more direct manner.

Direct action took on wholly different meanings under the circumstances, since I sailed with a man who also knows better than to feature "irrevocably altered governmental healthcare policy through T-shirts and sit-ins" on one's resumé.

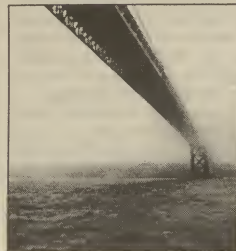
Pink triangles. Slo-gans. So L.C.

Why not go sailing?

Boogie-boarding at Ocean Beach has its merits. The bike trails that haven't fallen into the sea are well-preserved, thanks to those Sierra Club landscapers. Angel Island, approached from any angle, is always a thrill.

But there were things to do, and deck shoes to squeak across the rim of the job or the port or the shank. I'm not into that kinky rope stuff, so I can't recall.

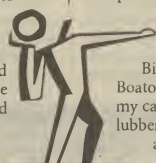
Feeling the bay thud under your feet in a skin bracer/Lands End way,



Bridge of sighs: Sebastian's hunger

I braced myself for the magical foray past the northern glittering humps of real estate that only select

folk get to fall asleep with this view outside their windows.



Sports Complex

Billy Budd I ain't. The Boatology for Dummies from my captain eluded this land-lubber for a pupil without the appropriate software.

Eager at least, tenacious for sure. Craving my wet suit, just in case I'd be remembered as "Swims With Chum"? Oh yeah.

After a volley of shouts, "Jib! Jib!" - not my name, and no, he did not have a cold - with a wobbly resolve to imagine a fleet of dolphins guiding me from below, we faced out under those columns to open sea.

Chapter 2

Swooshing under the Golden Gate Bridge, end points of architectural monstrosity disappeared into sky, like a skirt of *The Iron Giant* if he'd worn drag made out of fog.

The Presidio in its lush mystery, seen from the front, showed its true worth. Instead of sneaking in through the various backdoor gates into this, the real last treasure of the West, it lurked dark and high, soon parceled off to the highest dot-commer or obscure government entity/subdivision in a public/private trust/anti-trust park/not park.

Since when do trees have to be fiscally solvent? They make air, for gods' sakes.

The sheer enormity of the ocean just west of us doesn't come clear until you have bits of it splashing up on your face, chilling your hands to the point of near-immediate arthritic cramps. Understanding, at the moment of such intense physical exertion, when it's not just a ball, or a net, or puck or prop, it's simply about a wall of water slapping you for being in its way.

Trapped in an Old Spice snow-dome. I didn't want to stay there. I wanted the hot toddy part. Like, now.

Chapter 3

In sea-farin' terms, a "scwow" is a moment where you totally fuck up, or hesitate, or get the whole vessel into a very wrong angle, like sideways, with a carpet of waves whizzing by a foot below you, and you are so happy you didn't shave that morning, otherwise you'd exfoliate a few layers, the biting jets of water hitting your cheeks like needles.

(Scwow.com is no longer available. I got that word. Don't even think about it.)

How many times did Sebastian Junger use the word 'wet'?

"You could find that out if you purchase a Microtrust eBook." (Microtrust is a soon-to-be division of Microsoft). Miscotrust is great. "We're not replacing actual books. We're enhancing them."

Who the heck are you?

"I'm Moby Gates. I'm replacing your little paper clip guy."

I knew I should have written this on the Mac.

Chapter 4

Having only aquatic skills from canoe canoodling in high school, and a few laps across Long Island Sound in a pal's dad's ex-wife's mother's inheritance clipper, I thought boating fun, just rarely worth the four hour drive to the river with showtunes pounding through the stereo. You can have fun on a boat. Really.

But Long Island had been with adult supervision, unfortunately, and on a sunny day.

This day, under the bridge, facing off against the foggy wall of apathy, we were two guys with way too many pink triangle T-shirts just folded and put away, because the only "activists" left seem to be a Sacco & Vanzetti-Marx Brothers merger.

Debating the homophobia of the film *The Rock* while passing by the set, my host and I discussed "sports entertainer" *The Rock's* drag performance on SNL. We talked recipes, cocktails in both forms.

Then the sky got weird and cold all of a sudden. But we kept sailing.

Chapter 5

My captain and I were facing our adult years, beginning to archive our lives. We hoped to save pieces of our culture, for some reason. That's what I thought we all wanted to do. Not just trophies, stuffed swordfish, but ideas shared, exchanged, not banner-linked. But the waters' being rife with the thousands upon thousands of lost Java scripts, articles, debris from ASOs sinking in obscurity, duplicativity, bogged down by enormous salaries gathered from city to city by wheeled ones and flying monkeys - oops, no, that was a seagull.

We sailed on. With increasing velocity, we approached the copper canyon, the bridge, like that part in *The Odyssey* where the walls of boulder open and close.

"Doric, Iambic, Hebrew or standard English?"

No, geek, the one with Armande Assante in it.

"Oh. You can look that up on Microfilm.com"

CONTROL. ALT. DEL.

Anyway, it was like that.

Never had I crossed under the Golden Gate, nor at this angle, nor with a Nor'easter goosing me, until my captain yelled something to me and, OH MY GOD IT'S FIFTY-SEVEN FEET OF GDANSK!!!!!!

Thwaaaaaaap!!!!!!

A sideways guillotine.

That thingamabob connecting the edge of the sail's bumper that I was supposed to keep steady and turning away from the freighter? It thwapped back to kiss me with a swiftness that ... well, suffice it to say, I now truly value my neck and its attachment to my head.

"Whoo, you nearly lost it there," my captain hooted.

I panted, clung to something, recaptured the wheel thingy. Old Spice. Yeah.

And I wondered why any guy would spend a week or two months on a boat with another guy if he wasn't dating him, and why so many hit movies these days are about disasters at sea. And when was I supposed to tie back the thingamabob?

That's something only a true sportsman would know.

Happy GLBTQYMTFTMSM Pride, from sportscomplex.org. ▼

Searching for gay genes

by Bob Roehr

Dr. Dean Hamer, the National Institutes of Health researcher who discovered what is incorrectly called "the gay gene," is back in the lab again, recruiting subjects. This time he is looking for gay sons and their mothers to get a better sense of the likely multiple genetic factors that influence sexual orientation.

"When we started in 1993," said Hamer, "the only way to find genes was by this process called linkage, using anonymous markers where you are not actually looking at the genes themselves, you are looking at surrogates. And you do that by getting families where there are two gay brothers." What he found was an area on the X chromosome, Xq28, that correlated with increased odds of being gay.

"Now, because of the human genome project, we are getting all

of these genes listed, so we can actually look at genes themselves," he said, and try and figure out what they do. And the technology for identifying genes is so much better today – more exact, much quicker, and automated.

"Earlier we had focused on the gay guys themselves," said Sven Bochlandt, Hamer's assistant on the project. "Now we're trying to find gay guys and their mothers. We assume there is something interesting about the moms."

One of the things they are looking for are changes in the methylation status of DNA. "What happens is that the DNA gets slightly modified," explained Hamer, so the gene may be turned on or off, expressed or not expressed, and thus influence individual development. That can happen as the fetus develops, or even later as the infant grows into an adult.

Another is called genomic im-

printing, where the genetic contributions of both parents are present but they compete for dominance in the developing child. One of the places where this competition seems most active is in the physical growth of the embryo.

The paternal genes seem to stimulate growth in the fetus, said Bochlandt: They "want their offspring to be as big and healthy as possible when born." The maternal genes seem to restrain growth, in order to protect the health of the mother carrying the child. How this battle plays out could have an influence on sexual orientation.

"For me, sexual orientation is fascinating," said Bochlandt. And nobody has a clue about sexuality from a biological point of view."

Gay sons and their mothers are being asked to contribute a small blood sample and answer a questionnaire about family history. A portion of the participants also will be asked to fill out longer personality questionnaires. Other family members who are not gay also are encouraged to participate.

Those in the Washington area can come out to NIH, while others will have materials sent to them and their doctor can draw the blood. NIH will cover all expenses and offers a small stipend for your troubles. ▼

Nat'l HIV Testing Day Tues.

by Terry Beswick

The federal government has long held that up to 900,000 people in the United States are HIV-positive.

But in the year 2000 – at a time when a wide variety of treatment options have shown success in suppressing the virus – up to a third of these do not know that their bodies harbor the virus that causes AIDS.

And just days before the sixth annual National HIV Testing Day, this Tuesday, June 27, a new study has found that when people find out they are HIV-positive, about 90 percent change their sexual practices by starting to use condoms and/or curtailing their sexual activities.

"Take the Test, Take Control," is the slogan for the campaign sponsored each year by the National Association of People With AIDS, with participation from public health agencies and private groups throughout the country.

Also, if Tuesday doesn't fit into your schedule, people can take an oral, confidential HIV test at the Pride Parade and Celebration this Sunday, June 25, at the pavilion next to the Asian-Pacific Islander stage.

The National HIV Testing Day campaign was developed by NAPWA in 1995 to respond to the increasing number of HIV infections among specific populations and the widespread ambivalence among many Americans about the value of knowing their own HIV serostatus.

"NAPWA believes that participation in HIV antibody counseling and testing is a critical step in one's decision to take control and responsibility over one's health. The National HIV Testing Day campaign brings the 'Take the Test, Take Control' message to a diverse group of people and communities nationwide," according to organizers.

Public health experts agree that

by taking the HIV test, people who discover that they have been infected with the virus cannot only take steps to control their own health, but can help take control of the epidemic itself.

The study from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention involved 180 people interviewed a few years ago in Alabama, New Jersey, and Tennessee. Among them, 60 percent said they used condoms more often, while about half made the decision to have sex less frequently.

And unfortunately, more than a third were apparently shocked enough by the results that they stopped having sex altogether.

"We generally found that once people that are infected know their status, they do adopt safer behaviors. It has tremendous public health implications," Patricia Sweeney, a CDC epidemiologist, said in a statement.

Working with NAPWA's annual campaign, local, state, and federal agencies, as well as private industry groups – from HIV drug manufacturers to an association of cable TV operators – attempt to educate the public about HIV and encourage counseling and testing for those at risk for infection.

Each year as National HIV Testing Day approaches, hotline workers see a spike in the number of calls to the California AIDS Hotline, operated by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation under contract with the state and county health departments.


In 1999, the CDC reported that on National HIV Testing Day there was an increase in the number of HIV tests taken – and in the number of HIV-positive tests results. ▼

To find out where to take a free, anonymous, or confidential HIV-antibody test anywhere in the state, call the California AIDS Hotline at (800) 367-AIDS. In San Francisco, call (415) 863-AIDS.

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Correction

In "TG task force meets," [June 15] it was reported that San Francisco's Transgender Civil Rights Implementation Task Force had urged the state Senate to pass AB2142, which would outlaw employment and housing discrimination on the basis of gender identity. The article should have stated that Supervisor Mark Leno had introduced a resolution to the Board of Supervisors – subsequently passed on Monday June 19 – urging passage of the bill. We regret the error.

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Survive AIDS questions people in the Castro

by Jeff Getty and Jeff Gustavson, Survive AIDS Writers Pool

Last Thursday, June 15, members of Survive AIDS decided to stop several people on the street to see how they feel about AIDS. The interviews took place at 18th and Castro streets.

Q: It's Pride 2000. How are we doing on AIDS?

Lee Kruse, 29, travel agent, San Francisco

A: How am I supposed to answer that? Bad ... I can't really elaborate on that ... I wasn't prepared for that.

Robert Salletta, 53, cabinet maker, Berkeley

A: Wow, I was just thinking about that. Pretty good, actually, I would think considering how in the Bay Area Reporter there used to be pages of obituaries all the time and now, you know, there's only two or three. That says something about the medications

— the protease inhibitor drugs.

Christine Patriños, old enough to vote, teacher, Oakland

A: Is it cured? No. Then we're not doing so hot. That's the bottom line.

Sen Fenn, 26, makeup artist, San Francisco

A: AIDS is still a horrible disease. I think—because of awareness over the past decade—chances of getting AIDS seem to have decreased because people are being more cautious. It's still a horrible disease which will hopefully be cured.

Tevy Sophrnm, 21, kitchen clerk, San Francisco

A: I don't think we're doing

enough for AIDS. I think we need more funds and stuff for AIDS. For the year 2000, they should have more advanced technology. ... I think it's been around for so long they should really like focus on that—the technology—I think it really sucks that they don't. That's what I think of it.

Edgar Harris, ageless, administrative assistant, San Francisco

A: We have a lot of work to do. We've come a long way, but we still have a lot of work to do. I think the message has been forgotten by some people, and some people still don't know the message. So education is still the big thing. ▼

PWA benefits

◀ page 1

mits fraud, sometimes it's the insurance companies," said Catherine Hanssens, a New York attorney who directs the AIDS Project for the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, which represented Galanty in the case.

Monday's 30-page ruling has implications for people far beyond those with AIDS, effectively ending a widespread industry practice of denying disability benefits to people with a variety of chronic conditions, including cancer, heart disease, Parkinson's disease, and multiple sclerosis.

Hanssens told the Bay Area Reporter that the ruling, which mirrors a recent decision from the New York Supreme Court, levels the playing field for disability insurance companies who compete for new customers. When reviewing new applications, she explained, companies make a cost-benefit analysis to determine whether to conduct an investigation and request diagnostic testing or a copy of the applicant's medical records. In fact, most states have laws similar to California's and New York's, granting companies two years after awarding a policy in which they may deny benefits.

In Galanty's case, Paul Revere didn't need to ask for an antibody test. Had they merely asked for a copy of his medical records prior to the conclusion of the two-year statute of limitations, said Hanssens, they might have noted unusual symptoms, or the fact that he was participating in a double-blind placebo-controlled study at the University of California, Los Angeles.

"They asked nothing about AIDS at the time," Hanssens said. "And there was nothing under the law that would have prevented them from excluding AIDS. Paul Revere in particular has been one company that has been in the habit of recruiting people like our client, collecting premiums from them for several years, and then denying coverage based on new information."

The court's decision also lev-

els the playing field for the industry's potential customers, Hanssens said, noting that nowadays almost anyone might test positive on one diagnostic test or another. In addition to standard tests such as high blood pressure or high cholesterol, an increasing array of genetic tests can suggest a predisposition for manifestation of a potentially disabling disease.

Insurance companies have attempted to use these tests to circumvent the law requiring that their policies include the incontestability clause, even though, as Hanssens pointed out, "people can test positive and be completely symptom-free for many years."

"The highest court in California has sent a powerful message to insurers that they cannot take payments from policyholders for years, and then try to avoid obligations to pay benefits when claims are made," said Mary Newcombe, a Lambda cooperating attorney with the law firm Caldwell, Leslie, Newcombe & Pettit who argued the case before the Supreme Court. The opinion can be viewed at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/opinions.

Lawyers for the insurance company, meanwhile, warned that the decision could lead to disability insurance rate hikes for everyone.

Though Paul Revere's lawyers failed to prove that Galanty had purposely misled the insurance company on his application, defending attorney Gail Cohen told the San Francisco Chronicle that the decision "sends a message that you're much better off lying on an insurance application and concealing your condition ... because if you lay low after two years you get off scot-free."

Because Galanty began collecting benefits in 1996 for a non-AIDS related condition—tremors in his hands—the court awarded him back payments totaling only \$72,000. The justices also sent his claims for bad faith and emotional distress back to the Court of Appeals since they were not dealt with in previous rulings. ▼

If you are HIV+ and interested in a regimen that includes a once-daily protease inhibitor, you may be eligible to enroll in an AIDS drug trial

OBJECTIVE

- To evaluate the immune reconstitution in HIV infected patients with once-daily FORTOVASE® (saquinavir) + once-daily Norvir® (ritonavir) with 2 NRTIs* versus once-daily Sustiva® (efavirenz) + 2 NRTIs*
- To determine the absolute change in viral load and CD4 cell count at 48 weeks

INCLUSION CRITERIA

- Males and non-pregnant, non-lactating females aged 18 years or older
- Viral load of 5,000 copies/mL or greater
- CD4 cell count of 100 cells/mm³ or greater
- No treatment with any antiretrovirals for more than 2 weeks

DURATION OF THE STUDY

- 48 weeks


* 2 NRTIs include: AZT, 3TC, Combivir®, d4T or ddI

Study medications, medical evaluations and laboratory tests are provided at no cost to participants.

Please share this information with anyone interested!

For more information contact your local trial site at
(650) 493-5000 ext. 64926

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**POWERFUL AND
EASY TO LIVE WITH.**

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Prescribed
medication of
its kind*

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Start therapy VIRACEPT is tough on HIV. In many people, VIRACEPT lowered the amount of HIV in the blood to levels below the limit of detection of the test used and substantially increased CD4 cell counts after 48 weeks of triple combination therapy.

Take your medicine VIRACEPT is easy to live with. Take it two or three times a day (according to your doctor's instructions) with your normal meals or light snacks.

Every dose. Every day.™ VIRACEPT works. It is indicated for the treatment of HIV infection when anti-HIV drug therapy is warranted. It is not yet known whether taking VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that can occur with HIV.

Plan ahead Learn how your treatment plan helps you fight HIV. Take an active role in designing your treatment plan along with your healthcare provider. Ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist how VIRACEPT can be part of your strategy for long-term management of HIV.

VIRACEPT
nelfinavir mesylate
tablets and oral powder

**NOW VIRACEPT MAY BE
TAKEN TWICE A DAY**

Things you should know about VIRACEPT VIRACEPT is generally well tolerated. People treated with VIRACEPT may experience some side effects; the most common is diarrhea. Diarrhea of moderate or severe intensity occurred in about one out of five people in clinical trials.

Some common medications and some HIV-related medications should not be taken with VIRACEPT. Protease inhibitors, including VIRACEPT, may interact with cholesterol-lowering drugs. Talk to your doctor about any prescription or non-prescription drugs you are

taking. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia, changes in the distribution or accumulation of body fat, and increased bleeding in patients with hemophilia. For more information, call toll free 1-888-VIRACEPT or visit www.viracept.com. (Refer to the important information on the next page.)

*IMS Health National Prescription Audit™ data for PIs and NNRTIs, 01/00–03/00.

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Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

VIRACEPT

nelfinavir mesylate
tablets and oral powder

Information for Patients About VIRACEPT® (N-ri-cept)
Generic Name: nelfinavir (nel-FIN-na-veer) mesylate

For the Treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection
Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

What is VIRACEPT and how does it work?

VIRACEPT is used in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. You should be aware, however, that the effect of VIRACEPT on HIV in the blood has not been correlated with long-term health benefits. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in the number of CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), EpiVir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zent® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

Does VIRACEPT cure HIV or AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of VIRACEPT are not known at this time. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, Mycobacterium avium complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma. It is not known whether VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that may occur.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Who should or should not take VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking protease inhibitors. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs and arms may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

Can VIRACEPT be taken with other medications?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Drugs you should not take with VIRACEPT:

- Hismanal® (estemazole, for allergies)
- Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
- Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
- Quinidine® (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglate®, Cardioquin®, Quinidex®, and others
- Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Versed® (midazolam)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

- Rifampin® (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®

This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:

- Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

- Phenobarbital
- Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
- Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)

These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.

- Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

Special considerations

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with VIRACEPT, talk to your doctor about possible drug interactions and side effects. If you take Viagra and VIRACEPT together, you may be at increased risk of side effects of Viagra such as low blood pressure, visual changes, and penile erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, you should seek immediate medical assistance to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

It is not recommended to take VIRACEPT with the cholesterol-lowering drugs Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zorcor® (simvastatin) because of possible drug interactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between VIRACEPT and Lipitor® (atorvastatin) and Baycol® (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take either of these cholesterol reducing drugs with VIRACEPT.

How should VIRACEPT be taken with other anti-HIV drugs?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)
- EpiVir (lamivudine, 3TC)
- Zent (stavudine, d4T)
- Videx® (didanosine, ddI)

If you are taking both Videx (ddI) and VIRACEPT:

Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Viramune® (nevirapine)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be reduced. Studies are now taking place to learn about the safety of combining VIRACEPT with Viramune.

Sustiva® (efavirenz)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Sustiva.

Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Crixivan® (indinavir)

The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Norvir® (ritonavir)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Invirase® (saquinavir)

The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

What are the side effects of VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 14-20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily or 1250 mg (five tablets) two times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include abdominal pain, asthenia, nausea, flatulence, and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

How should I take VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. Your doctor may prescribe the light blue VIRACEPT tablets either as 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or as 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, you should not miss any doses. However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (Including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 to 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to be Administered Three Times Daily					
Body Weight kg	Lb	Number of Level Scoop†	Number of Level Teaspoon†	Number of Tablets	
7 to <8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1	—	
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1 1/4	—	
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1 1/2	—	
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1 3/4	—	
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2	—	
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2 1/4	—	
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2 1/2	2	
≥ 23	≥ 50.5	15	3 3/4	3	

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

†1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

†1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your Pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic foods or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

How should VIRACEPT be stored?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and stored at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

Call 1.888.VIRACEPT

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Agouron
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La Jolla, California, 92037, USA

L202-000

Rev. 12/13/99

OBITUARIES

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Mark J. Clark

January 29, 1956 — May 31, 2000

Mark Johnson Clark was born on January 29, 1956 in Salt Lake City, Utah; he died in San Francisco on May 31, 2000, where he had made his home for the past 17 years, having moved here in 1983.

He was a travel agent for Siemer & Hand Travel, which allowed him to pursue his love of travel. He enjoyed gardening and cooking, and his English bulldog, Precious La Rue, and Bausch Le Monde, his Siamese cat. He loved his family and many friends, especially his companion Walt Nelson and his Siemer & Hand family, who have been so generous and thoughtful of him.

He is survived by his parents, Ray and Dixie Clark; brothers Scott, Jim, and Travis; nieces and nephews, all of Salt Lake City. He is especially grateful to Dr. David Drennan, Louis Cubba, and Walt. Interment will be in the family plot in Murray, Utah Cemetery on July 29, 2000. Donations in his memory may be made to any AIDS or cancer charity of choice. There will be a celebration of Mark's life on Saturday, June 24 her in San Francisco. Please call (415) 647-6265 for information.

Kerry Keith Kreger

Kerry Keith Kreger, born July 1, 1949 in Houston, Texas, left us on June 2, 2000 at 2 a.m. Kerry graduated from Waltrip Sr. High School in Houston in 1967. He discovered tap dancing as a youth, and it was one of his passions throughout his life. He studied at the Hallie Pritchard School of Dance in Houston and, after graduation from high school, he received a full scholarship to study with Harriet and Al DeRay in California. Upon returning to Hous-

ton he then did summer stock at "Houston Under the Stars," working with Betty Grable, Dorothy Lamour, and a number of other Hollywood names. He left Houston in 1972, and after working in New York City and Las Vegas, he moved to San Francisco in 1974. Kerry was a charter member of the San Francisco Tap Troupe and also danced with Tap Anonymous. If you did not see him at work tending bar at The Village, The Pipeline, Transfer, Sutter's Mill, 22 Belden, Castro Station, Lupa's, or Uncle Bert's, you would see him dancing away at the Closet Ball, the Imperial Court, or Grand Ducal functions, at Men Behind Bars, or some other charity event for the LGBT community.

His sisters Wanda and Kay, a brother Flip, and numerous nieces, nephews, friends and co-workers, survive Kerry.

A memorial service was held on June 6, 2000 at the AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park, where a tree was planted in his honor.

On July 1, 2000 we will be holding a tap-dance celebration. So "get out your tap shoes, kids," 'cause we're doing a show for Kerry. Friends, fans and tap dancers can get further info by calling (415) 621-0370.

Shuffle ball change, fa-lap, fa-lap, dear friend.

Jere David Liner Jr.

January 26, 1949 — June 5, 2000



It rained the night David (Sai) was in transition. Unusual for this time, I believe the city was weeping for a son it was losing. David loved this city. He was an intellectual with a high I.Q., an excellent cook, and had a gift for gardening. He could grow flowers anywhere when given a chance. There was a magical charm and aura about this little guy.

But first and foremost, one sees his courage. It brings to mind David and Goliath. This little David faced and fought this deadly disease (Goliath) head on for 18 years. He may have lost in the end, but he fought a mighty battle.

My little friend, my mighty warrior, goodnight you little "Prince of San Francisco." Till we meet again. Our admiration to David's mother Dorothy and brother Michael for seeing through the inevitable. It's easy to see where David got his courage from. Many thanks to Dr. Lisa C., and all the doctors and nurses at Davies Medical Center. Thanks to all the people at Leyland House, and to everyone who did what they could, and then some.

There will be a festive celebration of David's life at "Mount Tam" on Sunday, July 9, from 1-4 p.m. For further information, call Nick at (415) 431-1341.

William (Bill) Martin

September 23, 1944 —
January 8, 2000



Long-time San Francisco resident Bill Martin died on January 8, 2000 in Palm Springs after a long battle with complications from heart surgery. He was 55 years old.

Bill moved to Palm Springs in 1999 after living in San Francisco for the past 25 years. Originally from Colorado, he was well known as the owner of the Village Bar on 18th Street in the Castro District. After selling the bar in 1986, he served as an accounting manager for The Packaging Store. He is survived by his sister Carrie and brothers Rocky and Butch. Bill will be greatly missed by Dick Neill, his friend and partner of the last 25 years. Kathy, Hank, Carol, Char, Bill, Bob and Lee, Tim, Gary and Steve, some of the many friends that made up his "San Francisco Family," are also feeling heavyhearted at his demise.

Stinky, we will always love you.

Please join us to commemorate Bill's life. A gathering in his honor will be held at Twin Peaks Tavern on Saturday, July 1 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. For further information, please call (415) 626-8332.

Kim Storch

July 18, 1949 — May 28, 2000

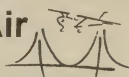
Kim, our beloved Ravin', died unexpectedly of a heart attack on May 28. His friends will miss him dearly. To have made it through the years of the plague and then die so suddenly seems unfair. We didn't get a warning.

Kim co-founded Community Life Projects, a nonprofit offering support for the gay community and others. He was a respected Jungian analyst in San Francisco over the past 25 years. He was a magic drummer who set up full moon drumming circles at Grace Cathedral, and used music as therapy in public and private life. He was a fashion diva, collecting hundreds of furs from thrift shops everywhere. He lived among his mountains of treasures, and gave them away to anyone in need. He gave gifts constantly, and always had the perfect accessory for any outfit you could come up with. A white fox jacket? Short or long? A period ring? Sure. A spare dining room table? There is one somewhere in his front hall. His chosen family was Black Leather Wings, and he blessed us with his fashion acumen, outfits for all, drumming, drumming, drumming, and support of the tribe in any way he could. He died just before our gathering this year, and we missed him greatly.

Peace, Kim, and I hope you are finally released from your pain.

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2460 Mission Street, Suite #102
(near 21st and Mission)
(415) 970-8696

Office hours: M-F, 8:30 am to noon, and 1:00pm to 5:00pm

*Not all dental services are covered. Details of program available from office staff during business hours

Our Man Friday

◀ page 9

real contest with another proven vote-getter, school board member Juanita Owens.

One of our community's good guys, longtime gay activist Marc Gofstein, will be a candidate for a Community College board seat this year.

Meanwhile, Governor Davis made what many feel is one of his best appointments yet when he named Katherine Feinstein, Senator Dianne Feinstein's daughter, to a seat on the San Francisco Superior Court last week. Feinstein is a bright lawyer, a terrific woman, a personal friend, and I know of no one who has ever had a bad thing to say about her. A great appointment guy, and congratulations Katherine.



Judge Katherine Feinstein

And finally, one of the social event's of the week was last Sunday when Mayor Willie Brown performed a private commitment ceremony in his City Hall office that united famed political consultant Jack Davis, a longtime friend of

the mayor, with Davis's partner, Donald Canady, an employee in the district attorney's office. The Sunday ceremony marked only the second time that an actual "marriage" ceremony was performed in that room – the other being when then-mayor Dianne Feinstein married financier Richard Blum. I couldn't prove the authenticity of it, but celebrity columnist Warren Hinckle, Davis's attendant, carried a congratulatory telegram in his pocket that he claimed was from the former mayor, now U.S. senator. After the private ceremony, Mayor Brown personally hosted a small dinner for Davis and Canady at the exclusive Gary Danko restaurant; the two have since left for an extended trip to Paris and the Greek Islands. My personal best wishes to one of my best friends, Jack Davis, and his new life partner.

And how was your week? ▼

1250 45th Street, in Emeryville.

Cheer SF's tryouts take place Saturday, July 15, from 2-4 p.m. at the Bay Club Bank of America Center, 555 California Street, con-course level. ▼

For more information and tryout registration, visit the Web site at www.CHEERSF.org, or call the 24-hour info line at (415) 995-2195.

Cheer SF

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shouldn't count themselves out before giving it a shot.

"We hope to get a big turnout of candidates to build our team for the Gay Games," Burke said. "Our tryouts are a process of inclusion. Lots of people have always wanted to be a cheerleader but rule themselves out before

trying. We'll work with anyone who is willing to learn and dedicate themselves. And no one is too old, speaking as the oldest member. Our average age is 33."

Tryout workshops are as follows:

• Saturday, July 8, and Sunday, July 9, from noon to 3 p.m. at Justin Herman Plaza Park, Washington Street and Embarcadero.

• Tuesday, July 11, from 7 to 10 p.m. at Head Over Heels Gym,

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO.311785
In The Superior Court Of The State Of California In And For The County Of San Francisco. In the Matter of the Application of Sarah Bell For Change of Name. The application of Sarah Bell for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Sarah Bell has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to Elana Isis Solari. Now therefore, It is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 27th day of June 2000, at 9:00 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
JUNE 1, 8, 15, 22, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.240561
The following person(s) are doing business as LockeOn! 801 Fillmore St. #21, San Francisco, CA 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Wayne Brooks Jr. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, NA. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 02/04/2000
JUNE 1, 8, 15, 22, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.240979
The following person(s) are doing business as Cathedral Tours of San Francisco 5235 Diamond Heights Blvd., Suite 301 San Francisco, CA 94131. This business is conducted by an individual signed Steven L. Rogers. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, NA. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 04/24/2000
JUNE 1, 8, 15, 22, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.240974
The following person(s) are doing business as My City Tours 1833 Broderick St. S.F., CA 94115. This business is conducted by an individual signed Russell Forrest. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, NA. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 05/24/2000
JUNE 1, 8, 15, 22, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.241222
The following person(s) are doing business as Pacific Oyster Bar And Restaurant 1434 Lombard Street, San Francisco, CA 94123. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Kam Li. President. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, NA. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 06/05/2000
JUNE 8, 15, 22, 29, 2000

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STATEMENT FILE NO.240621
The following person(s) are doing business as Red Afro 786 Milna #10 San Francisco, CA 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Philip A. Marineau. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, NA. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 05/08/2000
JUNE 8, 15, 22, 29, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.312642
In The Superior Court Of The State Of California In And For The County Of San Francisco. In the Matter of the Application of Randall Rodriguez For Change of Name. The application of Randall Rodriguez for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Randall Rodriguez has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Mark Andrew. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 24th day of July, 2000 at 9:00 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
JUNE 8, 15, 22, 29, 2000

CLASSIFIEDS

JOBS OFFERED

Director of Donor Relations /
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The San Mateo County Community Colleges Foundation is growing and seeks an Associate Executive Director to serve as the first Director of Donor Relations at College of San Mateo. Requirements: three years of experience in private fund raising by various methods and familiarity with Bay Area private funding sources. \$65,000 with 27 days paid vacation. Send cover letter, resume, and completed application form (call Darwin Patnode at (650) 574-6229 or e-mail at patnode@smccd.net) Position open until filled; review of applications begins July 10.

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STOP AIDS seeks individual for reception, data entry & admin support. BA and/or 2 yrs exp., req. knowledge of word & excel. FT & bns., \$26-28K. Snd ltr., res. & 3 refs., to AASC, SAP, 2128 15th St., SF, CA 94114. FAX 415-575-0166

Neighborhood Organizers

STOP AIDS seeks individual to coordinate and implement HIV prevention programs for gay & bi men. Spanish pref'd. C.A.D.L. req. \$28-31K. Snd ltr., res & 3 refs to NOSC, SAP, 2128 15th St., SF, CA 94114. FAX 415-575-0166

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Full-time, assisting clients seeking benefits related to their HIV status; assessing clients' benefits needs; assisting them in obtaining and completing paperwork; networking with other social service agencies. Experience in disability insurance preferred.

For Social Worker and Benefits Advocate positions, informal/formal counseling experience with communities affected by HIV/AIDS is desirable. Fluency in Spanish is a plus, as is possession of a valid Class C Driver's License and an insured vehicle. Full job descriptions available. Please mail or fax a cover letter and resume by July 7, 2000:
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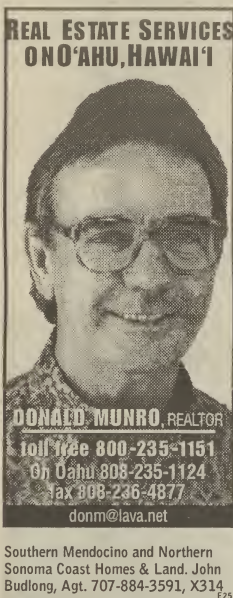
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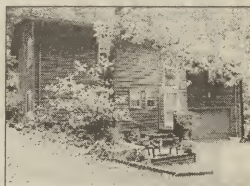
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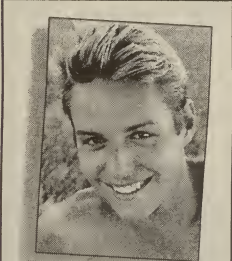
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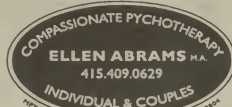
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years of Pride

Pride. It's the celebration that every year for the last three decades has steadily grown – both in its inclusivity and size – as lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgenders, and supporters of LGBT rights take to the streets of San Francisco for what has become the city's largest parade and festival.

For this 30th anniversary of the San Francisco LGBT Pride Parade, we went back into the archives. Our goal was to put together sort of a scrapbook of the various Pride Parades.

It's about the freedom of expression so evident in the city's Pride Parades, and about the freedom to be who you want to be, and the freedom to love who you want to love.

We hope you enjoy this special section, and that whether you're marching in the parade or cheering from the sidelines, you will enjoy the freedom to celebrate LGBT Pride.

design by Adrian Roberts, cheer SF photo by Rick Genhart



Top left: Two parade marchers carry a picture of slain city officials, Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone in the 1979 parade. Below: Three guys, including one wearing a "Faggot Revolution" T-shirt in 1974. Far left: Two men on roller skates in 1979.



Bois Burke, courtesy of GLBT Historical Society of Northern California



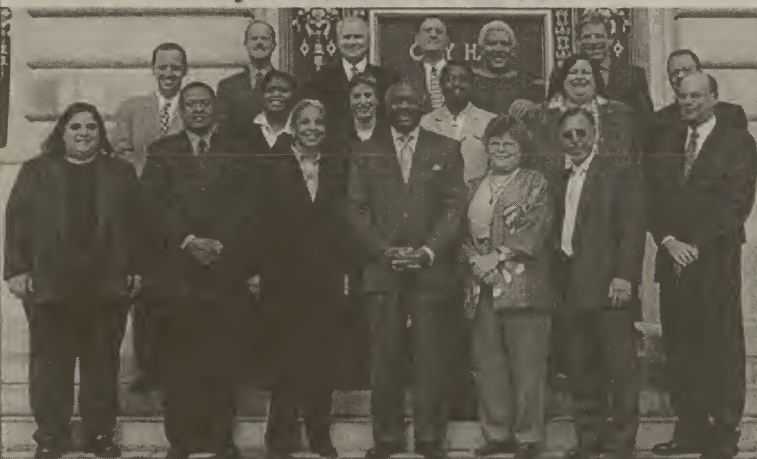
Above top: Two men show off the styles of 1978.

Right: Two men carried an anti-Anita Bryant sign in 1977. Below: Two shirtless men at the 1977 parade.



Coskie M., courtesy of GLBT Historical Society of Northern California

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PICTURED Third Row (Left to Right): Morgan Gorrone (Civil Service); Roger Sanders (Finance Director, MOCD); Frederick Hobson (Alternate, Rent Board); Veronika Cauley (Transgender Task Force); Steve Coulter (Library) Second Row (Left to Right): Bevan Duffy (Director, MONS); Andrea Gouridine (Director, Human Resources); Pamela David (Director, MOCD); Tammy Haygood (Concourse Authority); Carole Cullum (Board of Permit Appeals); Steve Kawa (Deputy Chief of Staff) First Row (Left to Right): Rebecca Prozan (Mayor's LGBT Liaison); Stacy Jackson (Transgender Task Force); Pat Martel (Retirement Board); Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr.; Roma Guy (President, Health); Stephen Herman (Human Rights); and Rich Newirth (Director, Arts Commission).

NOT PICTURED: Deborah Alvarez (Director, Children, Youth, and Families); Jane Bolig (Taxi); Parti Chang (Environment); Jose Cisneros (Municipal Transportation); Chris Dittenhafer (Taxi); Mark Dunlop (President, Redevelopment); Wayne Friday (Police); Stanlee Gatti (President, Arts Commission); Joe Grubb (Director, Rent Board); Ron Hill (Health); Tom Horn (War Memorial Board); Alan Huie (Film and Video Arts); David Jensen (Relocation Appeals Board); Mitch Katz (Director, Health Department); Martha Knutzen (Human Rights); John Lira (Telecommunications); August Longo (Mayor's Disability Council); John Lum (Concourse Authority); Penney Magrane (Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board); John L. Martin (Director, Airport); Jose Najjar (Small Business); Pat Norman (Fire); Walter Park Director, Mayor's Disability Office); Mark Primeau (Director, Public Works); Russ Roeca (Fire); Andrea Shorter (Status of Women); George Smith (Director, Homelessness Office); Linton Stables (Access Appeals)



Crawford Barton, courtesy of GLBT Historical Society of Northern California

PRIDE 2000



Top left: The "Liberty Queen" in 1976. Top right: Empress Doris rode an elephant in 1972 sponsored by the old P.S. Restaurant. Left: "Gays Against Brunch," 1980. Right: The banner from the 1972 parade, which started on Polk Street.

Photographs continue on pg. 50

Blast from the past

essay by Cynthia Laird

Thirty years ago, on June 28, 1970, there was a "Gay-In" picnic in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park following a march on Polk Street that was a fairly small gathering. This Sunday, June 25, thousands of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgender, and straight supporters will march in the city's annual LGBT Pride Parade and Celebration. Hundreds of thousands more will watch, in what has become one of the state's largest events, rivaling the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena.

We've come a long way.

The city's first actual parade, according to the Pride Committee and city resident Greg L. Pennington, took place on June 25, 1972. Pennington, who has compiled a detailed sheet of parade statistics, noted that the event took place on Polk Street that year; there was no theme and no grand marshal. The event was called "Christopher Street West," and then-Mayor Joseph Alioto refused to issue a proclamation. In 1973, the parade started on Post Street and was known as "Gay Freedom Day," a name that stuck for nearly 10 years.

In 1977, the parade route was on Market Street for the first time, starting at Embarcadero and ending at Civic Center, where there was an afternoon celebration. That, too, has been an ongoing tradition, except for a few years when the festivities were at the Embarcadero.

The next year, 1978, saw Supervisor Harvey Milk march in the parade as an openly gay elected official — he would be shot dead that November, along with Mayor George Moscone. It was Moscone who issued the first mayoral proclamation for Gay Pride Week in 1976. That tradition has continued ever since.

Also in 1978, the rainbow flag and the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Marching Band debuted in the parade, and it marked the first time that the event received city funding from the Hotel Tax Fund. Pennington's data indicates there were 138 parade contingents, and a crowd of 240,000.

In 1979, the Dykes on Bikes made its first appearance in the parade. Now called the Women's Motorcycle Contingent for legal reasons, the popular group traditionally leads the parade.

In 1981, Pennington said the name was changed to "International

next page ►

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54 GEARY AT GRANT, UNION SQUARE

Alan Blitt, courtesy of GLBT Historical Society of Northern California

Rick Gerhart

Bos Burke, courtesy of GLBT Historical Society of Northern California

Bos Burke, courtesy of GLBT Historical Society of Northern California



Celebrity grand marshal and comedian Margaret Cho.

Cho biz

Celebrity grand marshal makes no apologies

by Katie Szymanski

What is it about San Francisco native Margaret Cho that keeps people hysterically aroused and on edge at the same time?

Maybe it's the fact that Cho, who doesn't identify as gay or straight – "just slutty" – doesn't see the need to defend queerness with biological arguments or by de-sexualizing the culture. The only controversial speaker at the April 30 Millennium March on Washington (she referred to the Washington Monument as a giant dildo), Cho's work as a stand-up comedian focuses on the limitations imposed on minorities in order to make them more "presentable."

"It's a kind of politically correct cynicism that serves against minorities, to tone down who we are in order to be accepted," Cho told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "There are never those standards for straight white males."

Cho, whose television show *American Girl* made her the first Asian American sitcom star, knows all about trying to fit into an identity that isn't her own; she lost 30 pounds for her role because her face was "too wide," her show was "too Asian" or sometimes "not Asian enough," and producers had no problem asking her to "act more Chinese" (she's Korean).

One only needs to watch the movie version of her stage show, *I'm The One That I Want* – playing at San Francisco's International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival this Friday, June 23 at 6 p.m. – to understand Cho's journey from "the dark days" to a humorous self-acceptance of all aspects of herself.

But Cho isn't preaching – "just commenting," when she observes the injustices of the world; her shtick, after all is comedy, and her perfect delivery and wit will be the main attraction when she presides over the parade as the city's celebrity grand marshal.

Although she is appearing at other Pride celebrations across the country, San Francisco's grand marshal honor is particularly exciting to Cho, whose career got its start here after she dropped out of high school and decided to pursue her own dreams in the realm of Bay Area nightlife. For Cho, her role as the gay mecca's grand marshal is multifaceted.

"I'm representing joyfulness, fun, and a lot of different aspects of the community, like bisexuality, people of color, and women," she said. "Most importantly, I'm coming home, and back to the gay community that has always been so supportive."

Her acceptance within the Asian community, she explained, has been a bit more mixed.

"Within the mainstream Asian

American culture, there's been a kind of grudging acceptance over time. I'm not like anything they've ever seen; I'm not this pretty delicate little girl who's unspoken. Whereas with the gay community I've had love and acceptance all along. So I see myself as a sort of bridge between both the Asian and gay cultures."

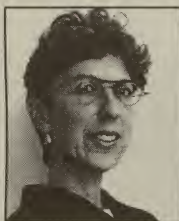
"But it's kind of like the difference between the Golden Gate Bridge and the Bay Bridge," she quickly added in a comic rant about her connection to the two groups. "The Golden Gate is really beautiful, and you want to visit it, whereas the Bay Bridge is really functional, but it goes East, so it's more difficult."

Combining her two experiences is the group she is particularly fond of, the Gay Asian Pacific Islander Alliance, and Cho will bridge the cultures in her own personalized way when she performs at both Pride's main stage and the event's first-ever Asian and Pacific Islander stage.

"I'm so excited," said Cho, who emphasized that the festival is, in more than one way, a return to her roots.

"For me, gay is the norm. The heterosexuals are an aberration in my world, a perversion," Cho explained. "And yet there's a unity of struggles that reaches across sexualities. The same fight for rights embodies all these different minority groups, and that's what I feel I'm bringing to Pride." ▼

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Blast from past

◀ previous page

al Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day."

The only parade death occurred in 1982, when Darryl Kevin Anderson was run over by a float.

The first U.S. senator to speak at a gay celebration took place in 1986, when former Senator Alan Cranston addressed the crowd.

In 1987 the name was changed again, this time to "Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day," according to Pennington. That year also marked the first parade grand marshals, gay Supervisor Harry Britt and lesbian attorney Mary Dunlap. [For more on former parade grand marshals, see page 44.]

The parade route changed in 1988, when the event started in the Castro and proceeded to Civic Center. That year also marked the first participation by a San Francisco mayor, Art Agnos. Since then, mayors have been part of the event – former Mayor Frank Jordan rode in the parade, and the current mayor, Willie Brown, has long participated, dating back to his days as a state assemblyman.

The Castro starting point was short-lived, and in 1990 the Market Street route that began at Embarcadero was used.

In 1995, the name was changed again, this time to the current Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Parade and Celebration.

From 1993 to 1997, the route was reversed as the parade started at Civic Center and concluded at the Embarcadero, where the celebration took place. During the 1990s, the number of contingents approached 200, Pennington's data indicates, and the crowd swelled to 500,000.

There have been controversies over the years; one of the more notable was over 1993's theme,

"Year of the Queer." In contrast, most of the other parade themes sound similar to one another. Some examples: "United for Freedom, Diversity is Our Strength" (1976), "Gay Frontiers Past, Present, Future (1977), "Honor Our Past, Secure Our Future" (1985), "Proud, Strong, United" (1987), "Rightfully Proud" (1988), "A Simple Matter of Justice" (1992), "Equality and Justice for All" (1996), "Proud Heritage, Powerful Future" (1999), and this year's theme, "It's About Freedom."

Some of the more unique themes included "Join Us, The More Visible We Are The Stronger We Become" (1975), which gets the prize for longest theme, "Strengthen the Ties, Break the Chains" (1983) "Unity and More in '84" (1984), "Stonewall 20: A Generation of Pride" (1989), "Hand in Hand Together" (1991), and "A World Without Borders" (1995).

This year, a number of activists have been critical of the Pride Committee, accusing it of skewing grand marshal results and short-changing LGBT performers at the expense of straight headliners. There also have been increasing complaints over the years of how Pride has become a victim of its own success, with the infusion of corporate dollars and the commercialization of the parade by appearances of the Budweiser Clydesdales and company logos on everything from condoms to key chains to T-shirts that have been tossed by parade participants to the crowds.

It is interesting to note that criticism and the Pride Parade seem to always go hand in hand. Back in 1975, the parade was criticized for being a party and losing sight of the political goals of the movement.

Some things never seem to change. ▼

PRIDE 2000



In the 1995 Pride Parade, Supervisor Tom Ammiano wore gloves to protest the Secret Service's donning of gloves when gay and lesbian officials visited the White House.

Tom Ammiano's had quite a journey

by Katie Szymanski

In 1962, a young man from New Jersey boarded a cross-country bus in search of a place that would let him be who he was. Three days later, he got off at the San Francisco Greyhound stop and "I was immediately cruised," the San Francisco Board of Supervisors president recalls. It was quite a welcome for Tom Ammiano, who quickly fell into his first relationship, moved into the Castro, and immersed himself in the gay liberation movement.

In the 38 years that followed it seems that Ammiano has been through it all. In the late 1970s he began his second and most significant relationship with teacher Tim Curbo, and the two lived in Bernal Heights, with Curbo running a preschool out of their home. Ammiano also became an anonymous sperm donor to a lesbian couple who happened to live just blocks away. As baby Annie matured, people couldn't help but notice her striking resemblance to the city's gay activist. Ammiano finally met his daughter when she was 10 years old; she has been a part of his life ever since.

While enjoying a career as both a public school teacher and a

stand-up comedian, Ammiano was part of what was known as the "Lavender Sweep" in 1990, when several lesbians and gays were elected to local positions, himself to San Francisco's Board of Education. Four years later Ammiano ran for supervisor in a "very intense race" in the midst of a newspaper strike and his lover's final days with AIDS. Curbo died in the last week of the campaign, and Ammiano was elected, taking office in 1995.

"It has been very enriching to me and I've learned a lot," Ammiano told the *Bay Area Reporter* of his experience with city government. "At times of course it's frustrating, but I think I've been able to affect some positive change particularly on social justice issues."

While in office, Ammiano co-authored San Francisco's landmark equal benefits ordinance, a law that has served as a model for cities, states, and corporations across the nation. He championed the fight for the Sunshine initiative for open government, still leads the push for a living wage, and wrote the voter-approved legislation that banned ATM fees (the law is still in the midst of a legal challenge brought by the banks). He made political history last year

when more than 40,000 voters memorized the spelling of his name, brought pens to the polls, and wrote him down on the ballot for mayor of San Francisco. Ammiano defeated two of three "leading" candidates through community organizing instead of big

next page ►



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Parade marshals Lyon and Martin are old lesbians

by Terry Beswick

Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin like to break it down to the basics.

"Before you become political you have to have self-acceptance and self-esteem," Martin said recently.

She should know. Martin and Lyon, who will serve together for the second time as grand marshals for the San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Parade this Sunday, June 25, have been political activists for nearly half a century.

Often, the two are celebrated as much for the longevity of their relationship as for their decades of political activism and, indeed, it can be hard to separate the two. Their mutual affection and re-

uals, and transgenders – changes they helped to create – they also note the many injustices and prejudices that remain, both in society at large and within our own communities.

"We now live in Noe Valley, and now we have Noe Valley lesbians, and we leave the Castro to the men," said Martin, matter-of-factly. "There's still a lot of sexism among gay men."

At 75 and 79, respectively, Lyon and Martin remember the battles

Noting that they were familiar with transgender people back in the 1950s, Lyon and Martin applaud recent achievements transgenders have made in the fight for visibility and inclusion, and called for more transgender people to come out.

"I don't care what you do, the thing is you can't hide," Martin advised. "That's how you create change."

And, by the way, don't call Lyon and Martin "older lesbians."

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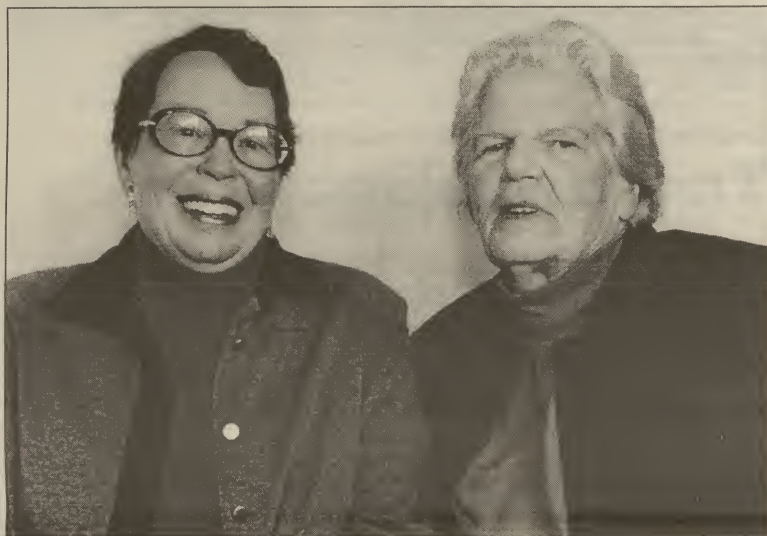
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Longtime lesbian partners Phyllis Lyon, left, and Del Martin will again be grand marshals of the Pride Parade. The couple were grand marshals of the 1989 parade.

spect were apparent throughout a June 9 interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"It was falling in love with a good friend," Lyon said, recalling that she and Martin met in Seattle in 1949, and became lovers in 1952.

"Del knew she was a lesbian and she had told me," she added. "I had never heard of lesbians."

Lyon and Martin moved in together in 1953 in San Francisco's Castro District, then predominantly an Italian and Irish Catholic working class neighborhood.

In 1955, the couple and six other lesbians founded the Daughters of Bilitis, the first national lesbian organization; only one among many credits the two women have to their names. Martin was the first open lesbian elected to the national board of the National Organization for Women in 1973. They were grand marshals of the San Francisco Pride Parade in 1989, and in 1995, both were delegates to the White House Conference on Aging.

And while they celebrate the many positive changes that have taken place in society over the years for lesbians, gay men, bisex-

uals, and transgenders in community politics. They recall each hard-fought struggle for inclusion by name of each group in the title of the Pride Parade and other community organizations, and they see these struggles as ongoing.

What people call themselves and each other is important, and for Lyon and Martin, it is also important to call people what they wish to be called.

Don't, for example, call them "queer."

"Queer" is a nasty, nasty word," said Lyon.

When using the word to refer to lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenders, people are "subsuming them all in the word 'queer,'" said Martin. "In doing so, you're putting them all back in the closet."

"You're losing the word 'lesbian,'" Lyon emphasized.

"Which we fought very hard for," added Martin. "It took until 1981 to get gay men to put it in [the title of the parade]. Until then, it was all about 'gay.' 'Lesbian' was taboo."

"And the word 'queer' also covers 'bisexual' and 'transgender.'"

"Old lesbians," Lyon corrected, responding to one such attempt.

The energetic couple clearly celebrates the fact that they are alive and healthy, and as they have always done together, continue to embrace who they are as individuals, while encouraging others to do the same.

"Our generation is very much in the closet. We are now very much working on aging in our own communities," said Lyon. "It's very hard."

Nowadays, while numerous community groups make demands on their time, the two women are most active with Old Lesbians Organizing for Change, a national group fighting ageism within the often youth-centric gay and lesbian communities, as well as society at large.

Of their role as grand marshals in this year's Pride Parade, "it's always an honor," said Lyon. But she and Martin both see it as yet another means to get their messages out.

"I'm hoping that our communities here in San Francisco can be united again," said Martin. "Right now, everything is divided. This is a year that we need unity politically." ▼

Tom Ammiano

◀ previous page

money, and became the country's first gay person to be a real contender for mayor of a major city.

Now preparing for his role in San Francisco's 30th annual Pride Parade this Sunday, Ammiano says being grand marshal is "exciting" because it represents com-

munity involvement.

"Usually people put elected officials in sort of a different category," Ammiano said. "That the community saw me in this way really means a lot to me."

But Ammiano's new duties don't stop with grand marshal; soon the supe will also adopt the title of grand father. His daughter Annie pregnant and Ammiano is both proud and thrilled.

"It's been quite a journey for me," Ammiano remarked.

This weekend he looks forward to what he expects will be a highlight of the past crazy year.

"I've been marching since the parade consisted of only a few hundred people."

"This year," he added, "I hope it's going to be one of the most extraordinary gay Pride weekends we've had." ▼

PRIDE 2000



Former AIDS Emergency Fund board President Rick Salinas, left, helped carry the group's banner with other volunteers in the 1995 Pride Parade.

Organization grand marshal

AIDS Emergency Fund shines like a new penny

by Terry Beswick

"It tangles me so bad," said Peter Fiske, "that I want to get out on Market Street and raise some hell again."

Fiske had just returned from a tour of South Africa when he spoke to the *Bay Area Reporter* in a June 7 interview.

"I channel that energy into the AIDS Emergency Fund," said Fiske, who is serving as president of the board of directors of San Francisco's AEF.

But he and other AEF supporters will have a chance to hit Market Street this Sunday, when the group will be honored as the community organization grand marshal of the San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Parade.

In this city, people have been channeling their rage against AIDS by supporting AEF for a long time. Founded in 1982, it is one of the oldest AIDS service organizations in the world, and has been a favorite charity locally, building on a foundation of long-standing support from the leather and Imperial Court communities.

"Without the leather community and the Imperial Court, there wouldn't be an AIDS Emergency Fund," Fiske noted. "Nowadays the whole community supports us."

AEF provides financial assistance to low-income men, women, and children of all races, ethnic groups, and sexual orientations. Any person living with AIDS or disabling HIV in San Francisco County, with a monthly income of \$1,456 or less qualifies for emergency financial assistance. Currently, clients may receive maximum grants ranging from \$500 to \$700 per year, depending on the availability of funds.

"People apply for a grant, and present us their bills which we then pay," Fiske noted.

Over the last 18 years, the organization has distributed over \$14 million to its clients, with total grants to clients in 1999 totaling \$1,533,000. In 2000, AEF expects to distribute about \$130,000 per month in direct aid

to clients.

"It's a continuing miracle to me to be able to go in and sign those checks," Fiske said. "Every one of those checks — they're all people."

"We're very proud to be recognized," added board member and immediate past president Rick Salinas. "I've worked very, very hard to make sure we do our job, and raise the funds, and keep our integrity, and that's very important."

"And we need all the help we can get to keep it going."

One way parade-goers can get involved with AEF is to join its Pride contingent this Sunday. The group is calling for hundreds of volunteers, new and old, to help put its 40-foot float together featuring Val Diamond and Beach Blanket Babylon, and to help carry a large portion of the mile-long rainbow flag created by Gilbert Baker for the 25th anniversary Stonewall March in New York City in 1994. (Call 415-436-0140 or 415-863-4296 to sign up.)

And if you can't help out, the huge flag will presumably give you an opportunity to donate to the popular charity by throwing coins from the sidelines — and yes, AEF will take your pennies, too.

Last year, AEF's "Every Penny Counts" campaign raised about \$125,000 with donation jars placed in businesses throughout the city, and all that loose change adds up to paying a lot of rent in times of crisis for many people with disabling HIV/AIDS. About 70 to 75 percent of AEF's clients use the funds to pay rent.

With a \$1.5 million budget last year, AEF utilizes a remarkably low percentage of its income on overhead. According to Fiske, the AIDS Emergency Fund spends nearly 90 percent of all money raised directly to support people living with AIDS or disabling HIV. With no executive director, the group is managed by the all-volunteer board and a small paid staff, assisted by the work of over 300 volunteers.

Fiske said the entire organization is honored to be recognized as a grand marshal of the Pride Parade for its work in making life

a little more livable for people living with HIV and AIDS.

"I'm very happy. I'm happy because AEF has worked very hard for 18 years," he said. "We've done a good job of it, and it's something the community can be proud of." ▽

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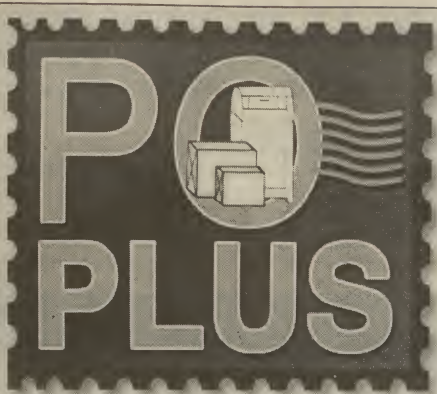


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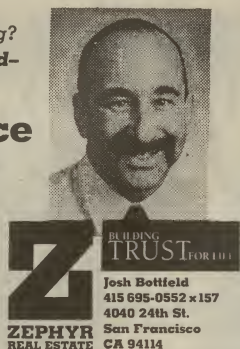


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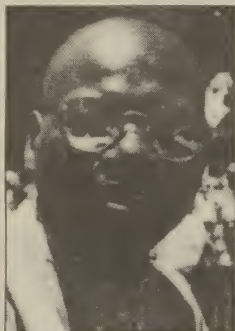
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Grand marshals recall their day in the Pride Parade

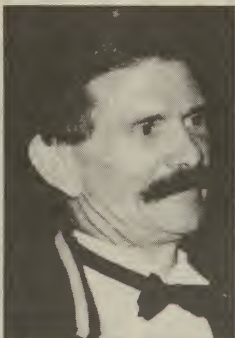
compiled by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco's Pride Parade hasn't always had grand marshals, but the people who have been selected to serve as the honorary leaders of the event since 1987 represent a broad range of diversity. The *Bay Area Reporter* interviewed many of those who served as grand marshals. Others,

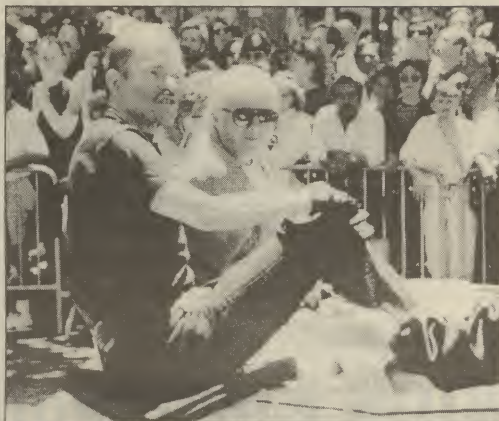


The late Marlon Riggs,
1993 grand marshal.

including Marlon Riggs (1993), Don Johnson (1992), Zach Long and Rikki Streicher (1991), Bob Cramer (1990), and James Broughton (1988), have since died. And there were some, including Jesse Costello-Good and Kent Khounsombath (1997), Pratibha Parmar and Dragonsani Renteria (1995), author Armistead



The late Bob Cramer,
1990 grand marshal.



The late Zach Long and the late Rikki Streicher, 1991 grand marshals.

Maupin (1994), and signer Holly Near (1988) that we were unable to contact.

What follows are the thoughts of the former grand marshals we were able to speak with.

Harry Britt, 1987

Harry Britt was on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors the year he was named grand marshal, having first been appointed to the board in January 1979 following the assassination of Harvey Milk.

"It was a terrific year," Britt said, referring to 1987. He had just run for Congress, and lost, but he called the race an "enormously unifying and uplifting experience."

"It was a strong time," he said. "I think the community felt good about the campaign."

Britt said the AIDS epidemic had taken its toll on the community during much of the 1980s, but that by 1987, people were "getting a sense of control of the epidemic."

"By 1987, the community was feeling a lot stronger, and we had an enormous sense of pride in the response we developed to the epidemic that became a model. There was a new wave of energy."

As for the parade itself, Britt served as grand marshal with Mary Dunlap, and he said they had a fun time. "Doing that with Mary was great. We were pretty much on foot with our friends.

We had fun, which is what you're supposed to do."

In 1988, Britt became president of the Board of Supervisors. He did not run for re-election in 1992.

Currently, Britt teaches history, political theory, and cultural studies at New College in San Francisco, where he holds the formal title of Harvey Milk Chair of Activism and Social Justice. "I'm having a great time as a teacher," he said.

Mary Dunlap, 1987

"1987 was indeed the year that Harry Britt and I were grand marshals, or as we referred to ourselves, grand marshmallows," Mary Dunlap said, "of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Freedom Day Parade and Celebration. It was a great honor."

Dunlap, an attorney and long-time lesbian activist, agreed with Britt and said that 1987 was a great year. "We had a lot of fun. We held hands and marched down Market Street together to Civic Center."

Gay Olympics was very much in the news.

Dunlap said she helped carry a banner up the street that said, "Supreme Court - keep your laws off our Olympic tongues," in reference to the court's 5-4 decision against Dunlap's clients, the founders of the Gay Olympics.

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1987 grand marshals Mary Dunlap, left, and Harry Britt, unveil a bus ad promoting LGBT Pride in 14 languages.

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Table 1: Number of Patients (%) With At Least One HIV Disease-Progression Event or Death

Endpoint	Current Therapy (n = 460)	EPVIR plus Current Therapy (n = 896)	EPVIR plus NNRTI* plus Current Therapy (n = 460)
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Death	27 (5.9%)	23 (2.6%)	14 (3.0%)

*An investigational non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor not approved in the United States.

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Bone Marrow Suppression: COMBIVIR should be used with caution in patients who have bone marrow compromise evidenced by granulocyte count <1000 cells/mm³ or hemoglobin <9.5 g/dL (see ADVERSE REACTIONS).

Frequent blood counts are strongly recommended in patients with advanced HIV disease who are treated with COMBIVIR. For HIV-infected individuals and patients with asymptomatic or early HIV disease, periodic blood counts are recommended.

Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis: Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside analogues alone or in combination, including lamivudine, zidovudine, and other antiretrovirals. A majority of these cases have been in women. Obesity and prolonged nucleoside exposure may be risk factors. Particular caution should be exercised when administering COMBIVIR to any patient with known risk factors for liver disease; however, cases have also been reported in patients with no known risk factors. Treatment with COMBIVIR should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or pronounced hepatotoxicity (which may include hepatomegaly and steatosis even in the absence of marked transaminase elevations).

Myopathy: Myopathy and myositis, with pathological changes similar to that produced by HIV disease, have been associated with prolonged use of zidovudine, and therefore may occur with therapy with COMBIVIR.

PRECAUTIONS:

Patients With HIV and Hepatitis B Virus Coinfection: In clinical trials and postmarketing experience, some patients with HIV infection who have chronic liver disease due to hepatitis B virus infection experienced clinical or laboratory evidence of recurrent hepatitis upon discontinuation of lamivudine. Consequences may be more severe in patients with decompensated liver disease.

Patients With Impaired Renal Function: Reduction of the dosages of lamivudine and zidovudine is recommended for patients with impaired renal function. Patients with creatinine clearance <50 mL/min should not receive COMBIVIR.

Information for Patients: COMBIVIR is not a cure for HIV infection and patients may continue to experience illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised that the use of COMBIVIR has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Patients should be informed that the major toxicities of COMBIVIR are neutropenia and/or anemia. They should be told of the extreme importance of having their blood counts followed closely while on therapy, especially for patients with advanced HIV disease. Patients should be advised of the importance of taking COMBIVIR as it is prescribed.

Drug Interactions: Coadministration of ganciclovir, interferon- α , and other bone marrow suppressive or cytotoxic agents may increase the hematologic toxicity of zidovudine (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY section of full prescribing information).

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility: Carcinogenicity:

Lamivudine: Lamivudine long-term carcinogenicity studies in mice and rats showed no evidence of carcinogenic potential at exposures up to 10 times (mice) and 58 times (rats) those observed in humans at the recommended therapeutic dose.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine was administered orally at three dosage levels to separate groups of mice and rats (60 females and 60 males in each group). Initial single daily doses were 30, 60, and 120 mg/kg per day in mice and 80, 220, and 600 mg/kg per day in rats. The doses in mice were reduced to 20, 30, and 40 mg/kg per day after day 90 because of treatment-related anemia, whereas in rats only the high dose was reduced to 450 mg/kg per day on day 91 and then to 300 mg/kg per day on day 279.

In mice, seven late-appearing (after 19 months) vaginal neoplasms (five nonmetastasizing squamous cell carcinomas, one squamous cell papilloma, and one squamous polyp) occurred in animals given the highest dose. One late-appearing squamous cell papilloma occurred in the uterine of a middle-dose animal. No vaginal tumors were found at the lowest dose.

In rats, two late-appearing (after 20 months), nonmetastasizing vaginal squamous cell carcinomas occurred in animals given the highest dose. No vaginal tumors occurred at the low or middle dose in rats. No other drug-related tumors were observed in either sex of either species.

At doses that produced tumors in mice and rats, the estimated drug exposure (as measured by AUC) was approximately three times (mouse) and 24 times (rat) the estimated human exposure at the recommended therapeutic dose of 100 mg every 4 hours.

Two transplacental carcinogenicity studies were conducted in mice. One study administered zidovudine at doses of 20 mg/kg per day or 40 mg/kg per day from gestation day 10 through parturition and lactation with dosing continuing in offspring for 24 months postnatally. The doses of zidovudine employed in this study produced zidovudine exposures approximately three times the estimated human exposure at recommended doses. After 24 months, at the highest dose, an increase in incidence of vaginal tumors was noted with no increase in tumors in the liver or lung or any other organ in either gender. These findings are consistent with results of the standard oral carcinogenicity study in mice, as described earlier. A second study administered zidovudine at maximum tolerated doses of 12.5 mg/day or 25 mg/day (~1000 mg/kg nonpregnant body weight or ~450 mg/kg of term body weight) to pregnant mice from days 12 through 18 of gestation. There was an increase in the number of tumors in the lung, liver, and female reproductive tracts in the offspring of mice receiving the higher dose level of zidovudine.

It is not known how predictive the results of rodent carcinogenicity studies may be for humans.

Mutagenicity: Lamivudine: Lamivudine was negative in a microbial mutagenicity screen, in an in vitro cell transformation assay, in a rat micronucleus test, in a rat bone marrow cytogenetic assay, and in an assay for unscheduled DNA synthesis in rat liver. It was mutagenic in a L5178Y/TK⁺ mouse lymphoma assay and clastogenic in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine was mutagenic in a L5178Y/TK⁺ mouse lymphoma assay, positive in an in vitro cell transformation assay, clastogenic in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes, and positive in mouse and rat micronucleus tests after repeated doses. It was negative in a cytogenetic study in rats given a single dose.

Impairment of Fertility: Lamivudine: In a study of reproductive performance, lamivudine, administered to male and female rats at doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose based on body surface area considerations, revealed no evidence of impaired fertility (judged by conception rates) and no effect on the survival, growth, and development to weaning of the offspring.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine, administered to male and female rats at doses up to 7 times the usual adult dose based on body surface area considerations, had no effect on fertility judged by conception rates.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C.

Reference: 1. Hammer SM, Squires KE, Hughes MD, et al. A controlled trial of two nucleoside analogues plus indinavir in persons with human immunodeficiency virus infection and CD4 cell counts of 200 per cubic millimeter or less. *N Engl J Med.* 1997;337:725-733.

COMBIVIR® Tablets (lamivudine/zidovudine tablets)

COMBIVIR: There are no adequate and well-controlled studies of COMBIVIR in pregnant women. Reproduction studies with lamivudine and zidovudine have been performed in animals (see Lamivudine and Zidovudine sections below). COMBIVIR should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefits outweigh the risks.

Lamivudine: Reproduction studies with orally administered lamivudine have been performed in rats and rabbits at 130 and 60 times, respectively, the usual adult dose (based on relative body surface area) and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. Some evidence of early embryolethality was seen in the rabbit at doses similar to those produced by the usual adult dose and higher, but there was no indication of this effect in the rat at orally administered doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose. Studies in pregnant rats and rabbits showed that lamivudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta.

Zidovudine: Reproduction studies with orally administered zidovudine in the rat and in the rabbit at doses up to 500 mg/kg per day revealed no evidence of teratogenicity with zidovudine. Zidovudine treatment resulted in embryo/fetal toxicity as evidenced by an increase in the incidence of fetal resorptions in rats given 150 or 450 mg/kg per day and rabbits given 500 mg/kg per day. The doses used in the teratology studies resulted in peak zidovudine plasma concentrations (after one-half of the daily dose) in rats 66 to 226 times, and in rabbits 12 to 87 times, mean steady-state peak human plasma concentrations (after one-sixth of the daily dose) achieved with the recommended daily dose (100 mg every 4 hours). In an additional teratology study in rats, a dose of 3000 mg/kg per day (very near the oral median lethal dose in rats of 3683 mg/kg) caused marked maternal toxicity and an increase in the incidence of fetal malformations. This dose resulted in peak zidovudine plasma concentrations 350 times peak human plasma concentrations. No evidence of teratogenicity was seen in this experiment at doses of 600 mg/kg per day or less. Two rodent carcinogenicity studies were conducted (see Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility).

Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to COMBIVIR and other antiretroviral agents, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling 1-800-258-4263.

Nursing Mothers: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that HIV-infected mothers not breastfeed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

COMBIVIR: Zidovudine is excreted in breast milk (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Pharmacokinetics: Nursing Mothers subsection of full prescribing information); however, no data are available on COMBIVIR or lamivudine. Therefore, there is a potential for adverse effects in nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed not to breastfeed if they are receiving COMBIVIR.

Pediatric Use: COMBIVIR should not be administered to pediatric patients less than 12 years of age because it is a fixed-dose combination that cannot be adjusted for this patient population.

Lamivudine Plus Zidovudine Administered As Separate Formulations: In four randomized, controlled trials of EPVIR 300 mg per day plus RETROVIR 600 mg per day, the following selected clinical and laboratory adverse events were observed (see Tables 2 and 3).

Table 2: Selected Clinical Adverse Events (>5% Frequency) in Four Controlled Clinical Trials With EPVIR 300 mg/day and RETROVIR 600 mg/day

Adverse Event	EPVIR plus RETROVIR (n = 251)
Body as a whole	
Headache	35%
Malaise & fatigue	27%
Fever or chills	10%
Digestive	
Nausea	33%
Diarrhea	18%
Nausea & vomiting	13%
Anorexia and/or decreased appetite	10%
Abdominal pain	9%
Abdominal cramps	6%
Dyspepsia	5%
Nervous system	
Neuropathy	12%
Insomnia & other sleep disorders	11%
Dizziness	10%
Depressive disorders	9%
Respiratory	
Nasal signs & symptoms	20%
Cough	18%
Skin	
Skin rashes	9%
Musculoskeletal	
Musculoskeletal pain	12%
Myalgia	8%
Arthralgia	5%

Pancreatitis was observed in three of the 656 adult patients (<0.5%) who received EPVIR in controlled clinical trials. Selected laboratory abnormalities observed during therapy are listed in Table 3.

Table 3: Frequencies of Selected Laboratory Abnormalities Among Adults in Four Controlled Clinical Trials of EPVIR 300 mg/day plus RETROVIR 600 mg/day*

Test (Abnormal Level)	EPVIR plus RETROVIR % (n)
Neutropenia (ANC<750/mm ³)	7.2% (237)
Anemia (Hgb<8.0 g/dL)	2.3% (241)
Thrombocytopenia (platelets<50,000/mm ³)	0.4% (240)
ALT (>5.0 x ULN)	3.7% (241)
AST (>5.0 x ULN)	1.7% (241)
Bilirubin (>2.5 x ULN)	0.8% (241)
Amylase (>2.0 x ULN)	4.2% (72)

ULN = Upper limit of normal.

ANC = Absolute neutrophil count.

n = Number of patients assessed.

*Frequencies of these laboratory abnormalities were higher in patients with mild laboratory abnormalities at baseline.

Observed During Clinical Practice: In addition to adverse events reported from clinical trials, the following events have been identified during post-approval use of EPVIR and/or RETROVIR. Because they are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be made. These events have been chosen for inclusion due to a combination of their seriousness, frequency of reporting, or potential causal connection to EPVIR and/or RETROVIR.

Endocrine and Metabolic: Hyperglycemia.

General: Sensitization reactions (including anaphylaxis), vasculitis.

Hepatobiliary Tract and Pancreas: Lactic acidosis and hepatic steatosis (see WARNINGS), pancreatitis.

Musculoskeletal: Muscle weakness, CPK elevation, rhabdomyolysis.

Nervous: Seizures.

Skin: Alopecia, erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, urticaria.

OVERDOSEAGE:

COMBIVIR: There is no known antidote for COMBIVIR.

Lamivudine: One case of an adult ingesting 6 grams of lamivudine was reported; there were no clinical signs or symptoms noted and hematologic tests remained normal. It is not known whether lamivudine can be removed by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

Zidovudine: Acute overdoses of zidovudine have been reported in pediatric patients and adults. These involved exposures up to 50 grams. The only consistent findings were nausea and vomiting. Other reported occurrences included headache, dizziness, drowsiness, lethargy, confusion, and one report of a grand mal seizure. Hematologic changes were transient. All patients recovered. Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis appear to have a negligible effect on the removal of zidovudine while elimination of its primary metabolite, GZDV, is enhanced.

DOSEAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: The recommended oral dose of COMBIVIR for adults and adolescents (at least 12 years of age) is one tablet (containing 150 mg of lamivudine and 300 mg of zidovudine) twice daily.

Dose Adjustment: Because it is a fixed-dose combination, COMBIVIR should not be prescribed for patients requiring dosage adjustment such as those with reduced renal function (creatinine clearance <50 mL/min) or those experiencing dose-limiting adverse events.

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Lamivudine is manufactured under agreement from BioChem Pharma Inc.
Laval, Quebec, Canada

US Patent Nos. 5,047,407; 4,818,538; 4,828,838; 4,724,232; 4,833,130; 4,837,208 and 5,859,021

January 2000/RL-794

PRIDE 2000



Grand marshals Phyllis Lyon, left, and Del Martin wave to the crowd in 1989.

Grand marshals

◀ page 44

The court ruling forced organizers to switch to the current name, Gay Games.

"I took great pleasure in saying the words 'Gay Olympics, Gay Olympics, Gay Olympics' out loud," Dunlap said. "No one has ever been able to curtail the right of an individual to speak a 3,700-year-old Greek word, except the Supreme Court."

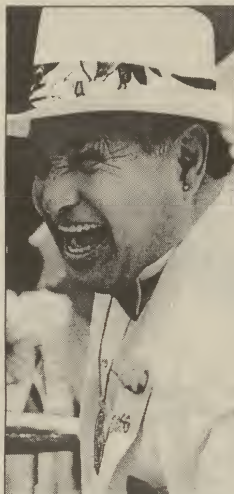
Dunlap said it also was a mixed time, however, because Tom Waddell, one of the founders of the Gay Games, was dying of AIDS.

"Although festive in some ways, we were pretty blue about that. And, we were keenly aware of the preciousness of all of us because AIDS was felling so many at that time, in the way that AIDS and breast cancer do today and did then too," she said.

Currently, Dunlap is the long-time director of the city's Office of Citizen Complaints, which investigates accusations of wrongdoing by the San Francisco Police Department.

Jose Sarria, 1989 and 1995

Jose Sarria, aka Empress I Jose of San Francisco, aka the Widow Norton, was traveling and un-



Jose Sarria, 1989 grand marshal

available for comment. His secretary, Dear Diva, however, was able to provide some information. Sarria has been busy, and earlier this month served as grand marshal of the Pride Parade in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Last year he was grand marshal of the Pride Parade in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

"Currently, Jose is touring the

U.S., going to all the Imperial Courts," Dear Diva said. "He goes to all the different coronations."

"I know he enjoyed doing it," Dear Diva said of Sarria's two stints as grand marshal of San Francisco's parade.

Dear Diva said that the book written about Sarria, *The Empress is a Man* by Michael Robert Gorman (Haworth Press) is now in its second printing and has done "very well." Sarria also continues to receive royalties from his work in the drag comedy movie *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything!* Julie Newmar.

Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, 1989, 2000

Lesbian icons Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin were grand marshals in 1989. "We had a good time. We were pleased and proud to be grand marshals with Jose Sarria," Martin said. "It was good to know the community remembered us and also very impressive to see the variety of people celebrating Pride."

Martin and Lyon share other thoughts on page 42 in this section.

They are grand marshals in this year's Pride Parade.

Dr. Maggi Rubenstein, 1992

Dr. Maggi Rubenstein, a bisexual rights activist, said she did not have a particularly good time in the parade when she was grand marshal. According to Rubenstein, the man directing the parade lineup, whom she declined to identify, didn't like Don Johnson, who also was a grand marshal that year. As a result, she said, they rode at the back of the parade.

"We were supposed to be in front," Rubenstein said. "We asked that they put our names on the side of the car and that didn't happen. A lot of people were saying,

next page ▶



Holly Near, left, and the late James Broughton, 1988 grand marshals.



Ginny Peacock

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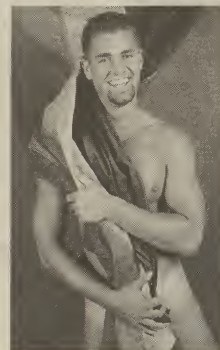
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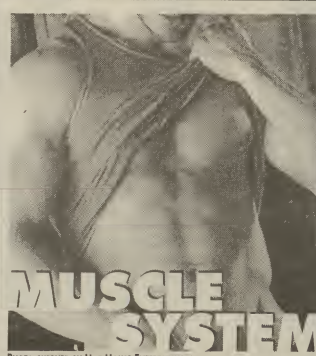
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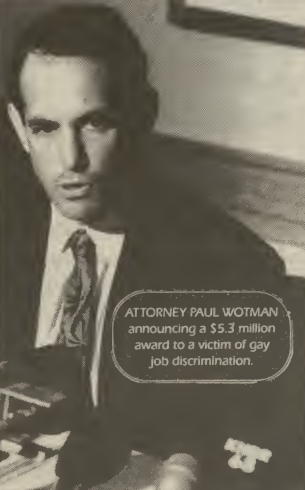
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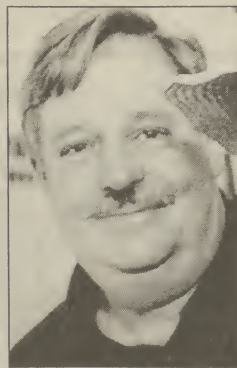
"Who are you?"

"And some people who knew I
was bisexual booed."Despite the snafus, Rubenstein
said she gave a "rousing speech"
and that "it was a good experience
and it was great to be given that
honor.""I was the first bi person to be
grand marshal. There was still a
lot of biphobia then, and there's
still a lot of biphobia now."A few months ago, Rubenstein
said she went to a function for the
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans-
gender Community Center Project
and board members left out "bi-
sexual" — they told her they "for-
got.""That's a mantra I've heard all
my life," she said.Rubenstein, who's nearing 70,
is a therapist and has a Ph.D. in
sexology. In 1999 she received the
Woman of the Year Award from the
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Trans-
gender Historical Society of
Northern California and she
spoke at the Lesbian, Bisexual,
Transgender Women's Forum
convened by Supervisor Leslie
Katz earlier this year. Rubenstein
also is a member of the Harvey
Milk LGBT Democratic Club.

The late Don Johnson, left, and Dr. Maggi Rubenstein in the 1992 parade

adding that it was an interesting
experience because organizers lost
the vehicle he was to ride in. So, he
rode in his own car and the clutch
cable broke in the middle of the
parade."I had a wonderful time. You
get a lot of energy going down the
street and seeing all of the people."Meinhold retired from the
Navy about four years ago and
currently, the San Francisco resi-
dent works in graphics and design
for an investment bank. Meinholdshe was grand marshal in 1993.
Fa, the first Asian American queer
elected official in the city, was all
smiles as she rode in the Pride Pa-
rade. "It was a wonderful experi-
ence," Fa said. "Nothing matches
that, going down the street and
representing the community."Today, Fa has two "wonderful
kids," and is on the faculty at City
College of San Francisco, where
she chairs the Asian American
Studies Department.Fa said that San Francisco is
"fortunate" to have Lawrence
Wong, a gay Asian American, as
an elected trustee for the commu-
nity college district and reminded
people that he's running for su-
pervisor in District 3 this fall.

Keith Meinhold, 1993 grand marshal.

Lani Ka-ahumanu,
1994 grand marshal.**Keith Meinhold, 1993**"You could mark my whole
story by San Francisco Pride Pa-
rades," Keith Meinhold said.
"They culminated my coming out
process."The first time Meinhold experi-
enced the parade, the former
Navy service member went with a
few gay friends and shied away
from anyone with a camera. For
the second parade, he brought
some of his straight friends, but
remained on the sidelines. The
third year, he marched with the
American Legion Post."And the fourth time, I was
grand marshal," Meinhold said.Armistead Maupin,
1994 grand marshal.also is involved with the Service-
members Legal Defense Network,
an organization that helps LGBT
servicemembers in the wake of the
failed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" pol-
icy covering gays and lesbians in
the military. In fact, Meinhold will
co-chair an SLDN fundraiser on
Treasure Island in October during
Fleet Week.**Angie Fa, 1993**Angie Fa was on the San Fran-
cisco Board of Education when

Angie Fa, 1993 grand marshal.

PRIDE 2000



Dragonsani Renteria,
1995 grand marshal

waving.

"I had more gay men tell me how to wave. I had like, five different waves. It helped me."

Ka-ahumanu said the LGBT community has moved forward. "We've come a long way, and since 1994, thank God, we keep going."

Ka-ahumana was a founder of the Safer Sex Sluts, an HIV education theater troupe, and she used to manage the Valencia Rose (where Josie's Cabaret was) as an out bisexual. She was the first out bisexual on the board of the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force, where she's served for the last three years.

These days, she's involved with NGLTF and writing again. "I'm trying to finish my book entitled *My Grass Roots Are Showing*."

Candace Gingrich, 1995

"The whole year was very much a whirlwind," Gingrich said. "I went to 52 cities in six months."

Gingrich became known as the lesbian half-sister of then-House Speaker Newt Gingrich, the far-right former congressional leader who rose to power after the 1994 mid-term elections.

"Being grand marshal of the San Francisco Pride Parade definitely for me was like the icing on the cake."

"Nobody does Pride like San Francisco," she added. "People weren't just lining the street, they climbed up on lamp posts and were hanging out windows."

Gingrich said that her coming out and speaking out "was a good thing, and was appreciated."

Today, Gingrich is the manager for the Human Rights Campaign's National Coming Out Project, where she oversees the day to day workings. The project responds to phone calls and provides resource



Former Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg, right, with her partner Judge Mary Morgan, and son, Benjie, in 1996.

numbers and works with over 700 different LGBT campus groups. The project's big event is National Coming Out Day in October.

Roberta Achtenberg family, 1996

Roberta Achtenberg left the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1993 to take a job in the Clinton administration. She resigned that post in 1995 and returned to San Francisco, where she ran unsuccessfully for mayor. In 1996, Achtenberg, her partner, Judge Mary Morgan, and their son, Benjie, were grand marshals of the Pride Parade.

"I haven't missed a parade since 1975," Achtenberg said. "Being grand marshal was an enormous honor. It was very uplifting and fun."

Currently, Achtenberg is senior vice president for public policy at the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. She's involved in the chamber's welfare to work program and other activities. Last November, Governor Gray Davis appointed Achtenberg to the California State University system's board of trustees. This year, she's campaigning for Al Gore for president.

Judge Morgan sits on Superior Court in the city, and their son, Benjie, just finished his freshman year at high school and plays on a baseball team.

Harry Hay, 1999

After serving as grand marshal

of last year's Pride Parade, Harry Hay – widely regarded as one of the leaders of the modern gay rights movement – and his long-time partner, John Burnside, remained in San Francisco as Hay suffered from various medical problems. Now 88, Hay is still living in San Francisco and doing much better, he said.

Hay enjoyed being grand marshal, and his car was surrounded by members of the Radical Faeries. Hay called the first meeting of the Radical Faeries in 1979 in an Arizona desert. Prior to that, in the 1950s, Hay co-founded the Mattachine Society.

"It was wonderful," Hay said of his ride along Market Street. "The enthusiasm and love that came from the crowd was great." ▼



Harry Hay, 1999 grand marshal

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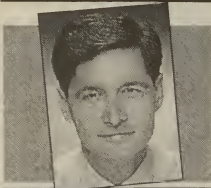


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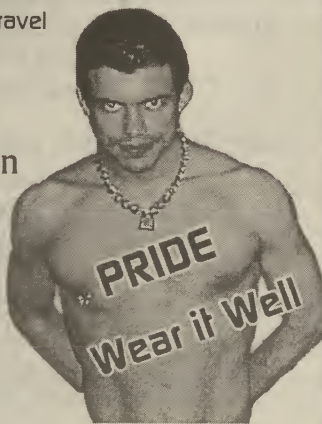
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Top: Former Mayor Art Agnos was the first San Francisco mayor to ride in a parade in 1988.

Right: A 1981 parade participant. Below: Gay seniors in 1989. Bottom: Protesting former President Ronald Reagan's AIDS apathy, 1987.

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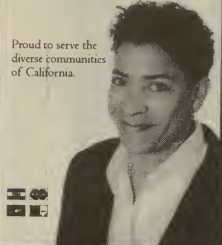
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Carole Fiedler



Marc Geller

Left: One of
the few parades
that began in
the Castro, the
1989 event
commemorated
the 20th anni-
versary of the
Stonewall re-
bellion. Below:
The late drag
performer ex-
traordinaire
Doris Fish took
part in the
1988 parade.Clockwise from left: Nina Darst, the
second Ms. San Francisco Leather,
1989; the Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance
called for boycotting Coors beer, 1988,
which ultimately led to major changes
at the Colorado brewery, including a
gay employee association; showing off
those muscles, 1990; "Bleach Boy"
promoted clean needles to help prevent
HIV transmission, 1988; a drag queen
in all her glory, 1990.

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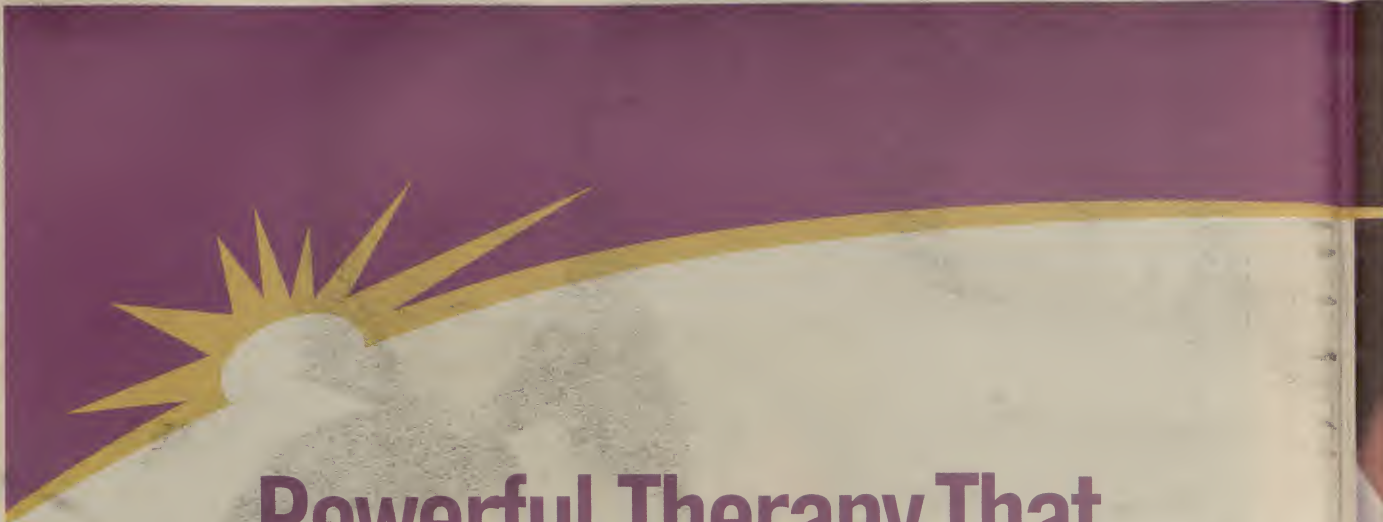
GARY MATTHEW LEBOW

15 July 1962 - 27 May 2000

We die with the dying:
See, they depart, and we go with them.
We are born with the dead:
See, they return, and bring us with them.
The moment of the rose and the moment of the yew tree
Are of equal duration. A people without history
Is not redeemed from time, for history is a pattern
Of timeless moments...

Four Quartets, T.S. Elliot

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TAKE IT JUST ONCE A DAY

SUSTIVA fits the way you live because you take it just once a day. It can be taken with or without meals, and there's no need to drink lots of liquid.

GENERALLY TOLERABLE SIDE EFFECTS

SUSTIVA is generally well tolerated, with fewer gastrointestinal (GI) side effects, such as nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, than Viracept[®].³ Diabetes, kidney stones, and life-threatening liver problems are rare.

SAFETY INFORMATION

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting SUSTIVA. They tend to go away after you have taken the medicine for a few weeks. A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. If you have these symptoms, you should contact your doctor immediately to discuss your therapy. There have been a few reports of suicide, but SUSTIVA has not been established as the cause. Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA because birth defects have been seen in cynomolgus monkeys given SUSTIVA. See Patient Information about SUSTIVA on the following pages.



Once Daily
SUSTIVATM
efavirenz

A color photograph of a man in a red sweater celebrating his 40th birthday. He is smiling broadly, looking down at a white birthday cake with '40' on it and several lit candles. He is surrounded by four friends (three women and one man) who are also smiling and looking at him. One woman on the left is holding a small blue gift box. In the foreground, there are several wrapped gifts in blue and purple paper. The background is a warm, slightly blurred indoor setting.

...So Life Goes On

References: 1. DPC Study 006, SUSTIVA ZDV 270 versus ZDV 270; 2. DPC Study 006, SUSTIVA ZDV 270 versus ZDV 270; 3. DPC Study 006, SUSTIVA ZDV 270 versus ZDV 270.
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Patient Information about SUSTIVA® (sus-TEE-vah)
for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection
Generic name: efavirenz (eh-FAH-vih-rehnz)

Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. Some patients have had thoughts of suicide and a few patients have actually committed suicide. These problems tend to occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness. You should contact your doctor immediately if you think you are having these symptoms, so your doctor can decide whether you should continue to take SUSTIVA.

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after

you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. If you have these side effects, such as dizziness, it does not mean that you will also have severe depression, strange thoughts or angry behavior. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA**:

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA**:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

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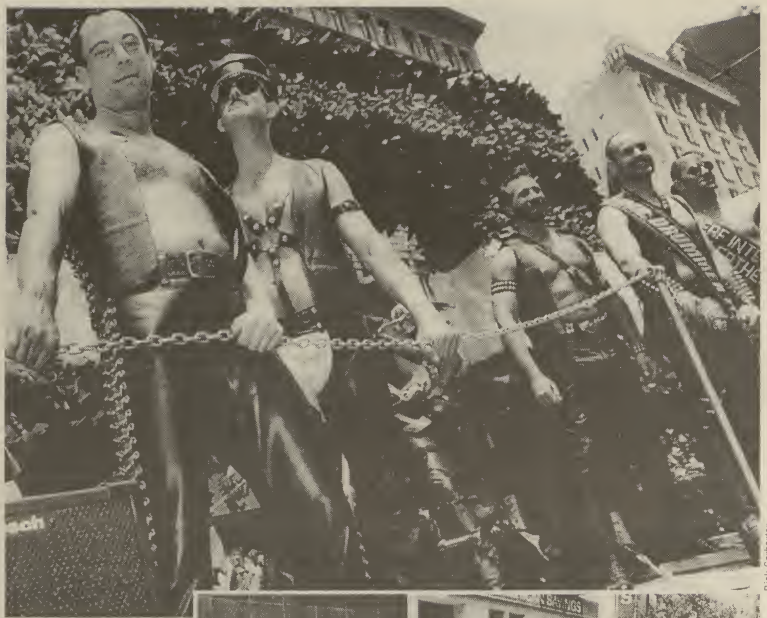
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Top: Leathermen enjoy riding on a float in 1992. Right: Lesbian and gay youth proudly marched in 1990, long before the term "queer youth" was coined. Below: An employee from one of San Francisco's largest law firms, Morrison and Foerster (MoFo), marched in the 1991 parade.



Above: The 1991 parade banner was carried up Market Street. Below: Members of the gay and lesbian Latina/o organization LLEGO - including the late Hank Tavera - marched in 1991. Bottom: "Dykes for Madonna," 1991.





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Homo—ual Pride

How cleaning up our act defeats the purpose of equality

essay by Katie Szymanski

We're here. We're ordinary. Get used to it.

It has become a popular phrase in the battle for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender rights, and for the most part, it is a correct assertion. We're ordinary.

But like the quirky kid who cannot embrace his personal style and devotes his life to appearing, "normal," the quest for proving our worthiness of civil rights sometimes takes an obsessive turn. Unlike heterosexuals — who are perfectly comfortable identifying as "normal" while sucking Jell-O shots off genitals — more and more lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenders wish that events like Pride Parades didn't have to "advertise" our sexual sides.

"If you tabulate all the condom throwing, sexually explicit signs and beer ads, as well as scantily clad women and drag queens," says an article in this month's *Alternative Family* magazine, "the dream of Pride could add up to a

nightmare for some LGBT parents."

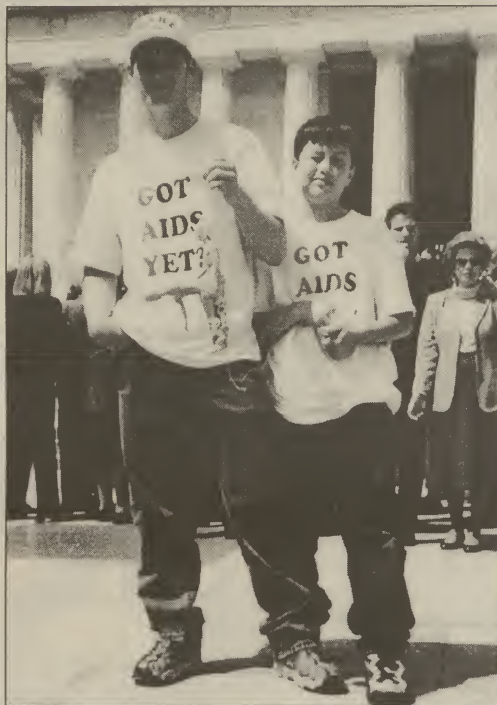
It is a somewhat understandable position to take as a parent under societal attack; while the staunch conservative "pro-family" side insists that LGBT people are sick creatures who should not have children, even the most pro-gay heterosexual voters usually support domestic partnership and gay adoption, but draw the line at "flaunting" gayness in front of kids. Naturally we would want to prove all of these viewpoints wrong.

Yet instead of standing firm on our right to sexuality, or retaliating by exposing the right wing's similar "sick" lifestyles — whether by catching a Bible-thumper spanking his wife, or merely showing the world exactly how obsessive the right wing is about ass (see photo, right) — some gays validate homophobic views by publicizing how they, too, can teach their children to fear LGBT expression.

"I am deeply saddened by many of the organizers who are unwilling to accommodate a celebration for the Pride in all of us," said an *Alternative Family* editorial in "Kids, Hide Your Eyes," the magazine's special issue for Pride.

Of course, it is not just some LGBT parents who advocate for a sex-free Pride; many young single people who "happen to be gay" are equally repulsed by public same-sex displays.

"Pride Festivals can be a mixed blessing," according to an article in the online magazine *Independent Gay Forum*. "They reinforce a healthy resolve to carry on our existence without shame or hiding, yet also seem to encourage in-



Dodie Carpenter

Child followers of the religious right display what their morally pure parents have taught them about Ken dolls at the Millennium March on Washington.

your-face and radical posturing that can antagonize straight on-lookers and distort what sex really means in our lives."

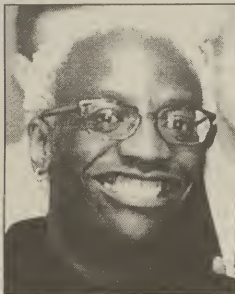
But as Good Vibrations owner and sex expert Carol Queen points out, it isn't just the "sex" that some gay people have a prob-

lem with; it's any expression that goes against heterosexual norms.

"When you look at these arguments that discourage us from doing anything that 'looks bad,' it's important to ask what in fact constitutes sexual behavior," Queen told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "It's

not just nudity or explicit sex ... there has never been an enormous amount of that at these functions ... it's things like gender expression, drag, even simple public affection. It's interesting how sex does or doesn't get defined and what we are actually responding to."

With this hyper-sensitivity to "how we look," and as more corporate sponsors rush to publicize our "cleaner" image, many activists worry about the effect on other members of the community. Will the freedom of expression that has been a backbone of LGBT-visibility soon be censored out of Pride?

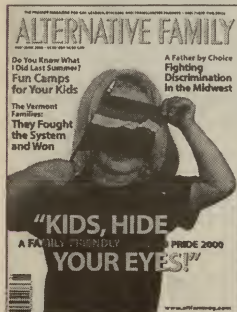


Marc Getler

Calvin Gipson

Not in San Francisco, says Calvin Gipson, president of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Celebration Committee Inc. Board of Directors. While the parade here is heavily funded by corporate advertisers, no company has ever asked that sexual images be toned down, and "If they did, we wouldn't do busi-

page 62 ►



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◀ page 60

ness with them," according to Gipson.

"We're very comfortable with nudity. We're very comfortable with the leather community," Gipson told the B.A.R. "In fact we're taking everything a step further this year and asking the mayor's office to grant amnesty to women who want to go topless at Pride."

Yet others point out that the censorship that occurs under cor-

porate funding is more subtle than outright orders to "tone it down."

"In the 'good old days,' when the parade had no exposure, someone would videotape the event and circulate it, and everybody would rush to the bars to see it," said Edward Goehring, who has been a Pride volunteer since 1984. "Back then, we decided how we presented ourselves. But now that television has taken it over and bought the rights to the footage, the anchor people give their commentary on our com-

munity, and the camera conveniently swings away from stuff they don't want to show."

What that means, of course, is that queer kids in rural areas and other people who can't make it to the parade "will no longer be able to view any overt queer sexuality," according to Goehring. "And when you strip that away, that piece of us becomes unknown, which is very dangerous."

Nationally, more Pride Parades are very open about taking steps to tone down sexually explicit images. A relieved pride-goer in

Maryland told *Alternative Family*, "Baltimore Pride Fest, over the years, has more awareness. ... We find it to be a very supportive environment, not focused on sexual activity but on lesbian and gay couples with full lives."

Do full lives not include sex? San Francisco Pride, while it will not censor sexual expression along the parade route, has created special family areas sterile enough to be anybody's nursery school, a compromise that allows "everyone to participate, without being restricted by anyone else's

participation," according to San Francisco Pride Executive Director Teddy Witherington.

But in other places a parade with sexual displays is out of the question.

"In smaller counties, for instance, the protesters are there and the right wing is there waiting for anything like that so they can make their point," said Witherington.



Teddy Witherington

Because those right-wingers are sometimes known for violence, nobody advocates that gays put themselves at risk. But at Pride, it is the fear of political backlash that is the predominant reason given by LGBT people advocating for a benign event.

"What does it accomplish when we are offensive? Whom are we winning?" asks the *Independent Gay Forum* in response to reports of a queer "kissing booths" on Pride days at college campuses. "More importantly, whom are we losing?"

In the April issue of the mid-west magazine *Lavender*, a list of pitfalls to avoid at the Millennium March on Washington emphasized that same-sex affection should occur only away from the crowds.

"Don't reenact a five-girl make-out scene for the cameraman who is eager for a few titillating shots of hot lesbian love," reads Pitfall number one. "You may find yourself ... the poster-child of the next fundamentalist Christian, right-wing, anti-gay video propaganda."

But the Millennium March, with its emphasis on "faith and family," largely excluded leather and lust from its platform, had fewer attendees and less media coverage than previous marches, and is now in the throws of a financial scandal that sets us further back than any public kiss ever has. And all this disruption happened for the sake of an event that accomplished nothing radical (one syndicated lesbian columnist said this was the only march she had ever felt "safe" enough to attend). Perhaps if the perverts were in charge, this country could have seen some genuine progress.

For despite continuous assertions by LGBT anti-expressionists that they aren't "assimilationist, conservative, or against identities and freedoms," it actually is a right-wing value that gay and gender-variant feelings are okay as long as you don't act on them or show them in public. After all, it isn't the sexless homo that the fundies hate; they consider their own ex-gays to be "cured" simply by virtue of fantasizing without copulating, and their ex-lesbians just need makeup and a manicure to be on the road to "improvement."

Additionally, it isn't fooling anyone that we are "just like other couples" if our message is that straights don't have sex. And, as Queen points out, it doesn't ad-

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Carol Queen

vance our cause to pretend that most "ordinary" people don't have sexual or even zany sides.

"Why is it that nudity is tolerated in events like 'Bay to Breakers,' where people make the front page of the *Examiner* for the world to laugh and say, 'Oh, that's what happens in crazy San Francisco,'" asks Queen. "Who do you think gave the public that idea about San Francisco anyway? We did."

Comedian Margaret Cho, who received criticism from LGBT people for comparing the Washington Monument to a giant dildo at the Millennium March, agrees that "not offending" heterosexuals misses the point of the struggle for civil rights.

"Why should we even care about being acceptable to straight people? It's so demeaning to everyone except for those in power," Cho told the *B.A.R.* "We should have the same rights regardless of whether we're acceptable to straight white men or not."

Indeed, just like the religious right never dismisses the "show us your tits" crowd at Mardi Gras as "unrepresentative of heterosexuals," the gay people who advocate for less LGBT expression at Pride don't even mention the hetero-sex images that pervade our culture. Is it just that these gays have become numb and unaffected by straight sex because those people have dared, for so many years, to actually express themselves?

We are in fact ordinary, and very much like many straight people in the sense that we all have families, friends, and personal goals. But since the one glaring difference is with whom we have sex, does it make sense to leave that out of the fight?

For some Pride events, the answer is yes.

"Although it may not have a G-rating yet, Pride events all around the country are slowly changing," boasts *Alternative Family*.

This is a message that neglects both the historical and political importance of Pride, according to longtime participants.

"When queer folks talk of disapproval it's simply about a degree of straight demonstrativeness that we supposedly can't have the same level of access to," says Queen. "That's part of the reason people get so frisky during the parade, is that it is a safe space. Let us also not forget the historical factors that gave us the parade, like the rag tag marches by the Sexual Freedom League in the late 1960s."

Goehring agrees.

"If all sexual and gender expression is only in private, where is our visible queerness, and how will we advance?" he said. "Gay people with this 'Sit down and shut up' view are saying that they have nothing in common with drag queens or leather folk, which is always a shocking thing to hear. So much for gay history." ▼



While going topless may be discouraged at Pride events in other cities, one San Francisco Pride participant got into the spirit during the 1995 festival, as those around her enjoyed the show.

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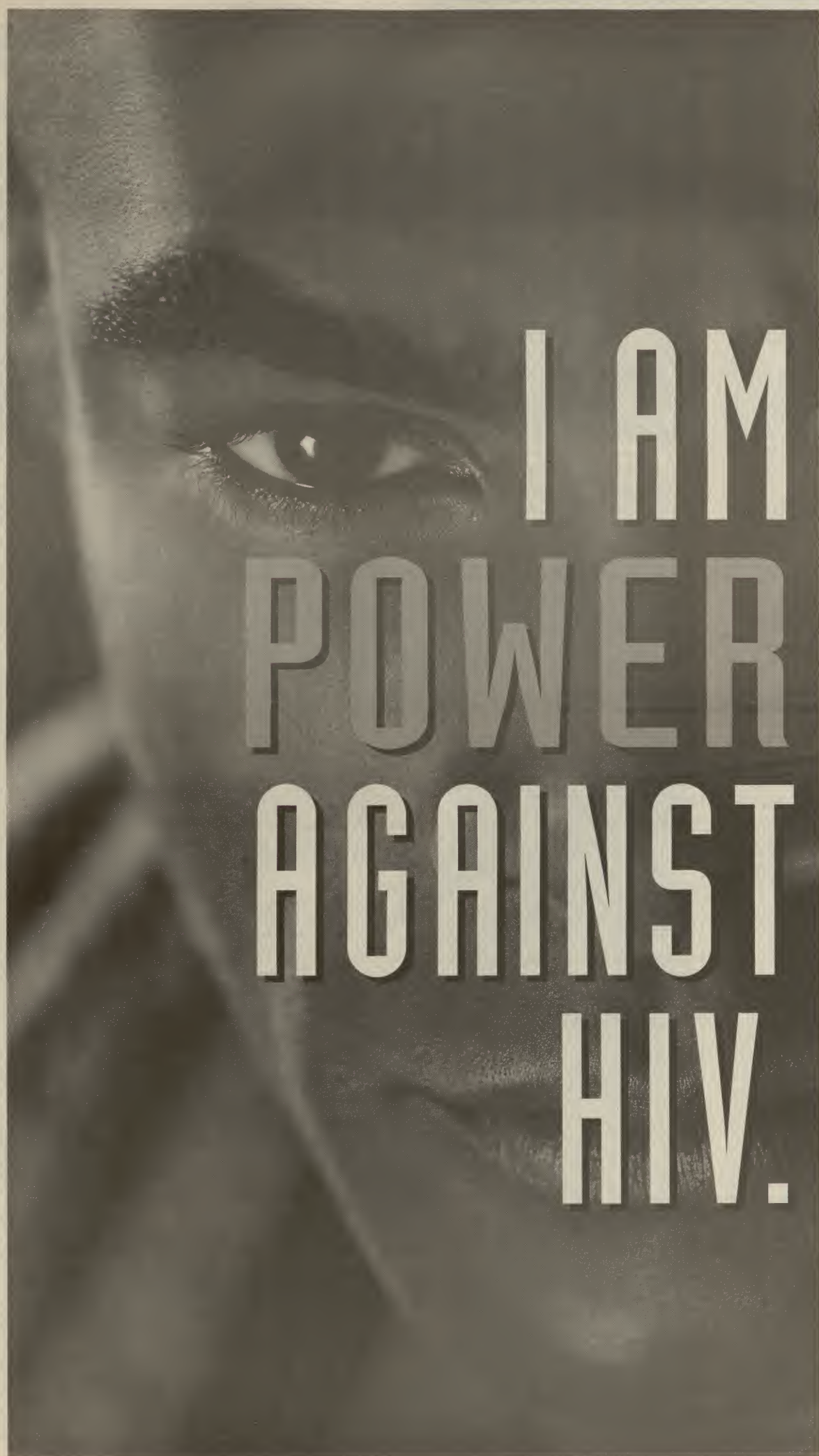
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Important safety information

About 5% of patients (5 in 100) who take ZIAGEN have a hypersensitivity reaction (a serious allergic reaction) that may result in death. IF YOU HAVE SKIN RASH OR TWO OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING SETS OF SYMPTOMS, STOP TAKING ZIAGEN AND CALL YOUR DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY:

- fever
- nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal pain
- severe tiredness, achiness, or generally ill feeling
- sore throat, shortness of breath, or cough

A written list of these symptoms is on the Warning Card and Medication Guide provided by your pharmacist. You should carry the Warning Card with you.

If you must stop treatment with ZIAGEN because you have had this serious reaction, NEVER TAKE ZIAGEN AGAIN. If you take ZIAGEN again after you have had this serious reaction, WITHIN HOURS you may experience LIFE-THREATENING symptoms that may include LOWERING OF YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE OR DEATH.

A buildup of lactic acid and an enlarged liver, including fatal cases, have been reported with HIV drugs of this type, including ZIAGEN and other antiretrovirals.

Most side effects were mild to moderate; the most common side effects were nausea, vomiting, malaise or fatigue, headache, diarrhea, and loss of appetite. Most of these side effects did not cause people to stop taking ZIAGEN.

*71% (62/87) of patients taking ZIAGEN with lamivudine + zidovudine in this clinical trial had viral load undetectable below 400 copies/mL using the Roche Amplicor HIV-1 MONITOR[®] Test.

Please see important information for ZIAGEN and COMBIVIR on adjacent pages.



Glaxo Wellcome
HIV

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MEDICATION GUIDE**ZIAGEN® (z-EYE-uh-jen) (abacavir sulfate) Tablets and Oral Solution**

Established name: abacavir (uh-BACK-ah-veer) sulfate tablets and oral solution

In order to take Ziagen safely, you should read all of the information in this Medication Guide each time you fill your prescription for Ziagen.

What is the most important information I should know about Ziagen?

About 5% of patients (5 in 100) who take Ziagen have a hypersensitivity reaction (a serious allergic reaction) **that may result in death**. If you have **skin rash** or 2 or more of the following sets of symptoms, you may be having this kind of reaction:

- fever
- nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal pain
- severe tiredness, achiness, or generally ill feeling
- sore throat, shortness of breath, or cough

A written list of these symptoms is on the Warning Card provided by your pharmacist. You should carry this Warning Card with you.

IF YOU NOTICE THESE SYMPTOMS WHILE TAKING ZIAGEN, STOP TAKING ZIAGEN AND CALL YOUR DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY.

If you must stop treatment with Ziagen because you have had this serious reaction, **NEVER TAKE ZIAGEN AGAIN**. If you take Ziagen again after you have had this serious reaction, **WITHIN HOURS** you may experience **LIFE-THREATENING** symptoms that may include **LOWERING OF YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE OR DEATH**.

Ziagen can have other serious side effects. Be sure to read "What are the possible side effects of Ziagen?" in the section below.

What is Ziagen?

Ziagen is a medication used to treat HIV infection. Ziagen is taken by mouth as a tablet or a strawberry-banana flavored liquid. It belongs to a class of anti-HIV medicines called nucleoside analogue reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs). Ziagen is only proven to work when taken in combination with other anti-HIV medications. When used in combination with these other medications, Ziagen helps lower the amount of HIV found in your blood and keep your immune system as healthy as possible so that it can help fight infection. However, Ziagen does not have these effects in all patients.

Ziagen does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. At this time, there is no evidence that Ziagen will help you live longer or have fewer of the medical problems that are associated with HIV infection or AIDS. Because of this, you must be sure to be seen regularly by your health care provider.

Who should not take Ziagen?

Do not take Ziagen if you have ever had a hypersensitivity reaction (a serious allergic reaction) to Ziagen. In such cases, you should return all of your unused Ziagen to your doctor or pharmacist for proper disposal.

How should I take Ziagen?

Take Ziagen exactly as your doctor prescribes it.

The usual dosage for adults (at least 16 years of age) is one 300-mg tablet twice a day.

Adolescents and children from 3 months to 16 years of age can also take Ziagen. Your doctor will tell you if the oral solution or tablet is best for your child. Also, your child's doctor will decide the right dose based on your child's weight and age. Ziagen has not been studied in children under 3 months of age.

Ziagen can be taken with food or on an empty stomach.

To help make sure that your anti-HIV therapy is as effective as it can be, be very careful to take all of your medication exactly as your doctor prescribed it and do not skip any doses.

If you miss a dose of Ziagen, take the missed dose immediately. Then, take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time.

When your supply of Ziagen and other anti-HIV drugs starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. It is very important that you take anti-HIV drugs as prescribed by your doctor because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if one or more of the drugs is stopped, even for a short time.

What should I avoid while taking Ziagen?

Ziagen has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Continue to practice safe sex while using Ziagen. Do not use or share dirty needles.

Talk to your doctor if you are pregnant or if you become pregnant while taking Ziagen. Ziagen has not been studied in pregnant women and the risk to the unborn child is not known.

Mothers with HIV should not breastfeed their infants because HIV in the breast milk can be passed to the infant.

What are the possible side effects of Ziagen?

Some people have had a hypersensitivity reaction (a serious allergic reaction) to Ziagen, which can be fatal. Instructions on how to recognize a possible reaction, as well as what to do if such a reaction is suspected, are discussed in the section "What is the most important information I should know about Ziagen?"

The class of medicines to which Ziagen belongs (NRTIs) can cause a condition called lactic acidosis, together with an enlarged liver. In some cases, this condition can be fatal. Women are more likely than men to experience this rare but serious side effect.

Ziagen can cause other side effects. In studies, the most common side effects with Ziagen were nausea, vomiting, malaise or fatigue, headache, diarrhea, and loss of appetite. Most of these side effects did not cause people to stop taking Ziagen. This listing of side effects is not complete. Your doctor or pharmacist can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects with Ziagen. Talk to your doctor promptly about any side effects you have.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Ask a health care professional about any concerns about Ziagen. Professional labeling is available to your doctor and other health care professionals. If you want more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist to let you read the professional labeling.

GlaxoWellcome

Glaxo Wellcome Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

January 2000 MG - 005

This Medication Guide has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration.

Patient Information about**COMBIVIR® (lamivudine 150 mg/zidovudine 300 mg) Tablets**

for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection

Generic name: lamivudine/zidovudine tablets

Please read this information before you start taking COMBIVIR (pronounced KOM-bi-veer). Staying informed will help you to work more closely with your doctor and healthcare team to determine what is best for you. Remember, this information does not take the place of careful discussion with your healthcare provider. You should remain under a doctor's care when using COMBIVIR and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your healthcare provider.

What is COMBIVIR?

COMBIVIR is the brand name of a tablet that combines EPIVIR® Tablets (lamivudine tablets) [3TC®] and RETROVIR® (zidovudine) Tablets [ZDV], two drugs which are used to treat HIV (human immunodeficiency virus). HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome).

How does COMBIVIR work?

COMBIVIR is a combination of lamivudine (la-MIV-u-deen) and zidovudine (zi-DOHV-u-deen), two medicines (nucleoside analogues) that slow down the replication of the HIV virus. This can reduce the virus' ability to infect new cells. It may help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 (T) cell count. Lamivudine plus zidovudine when used together can have stronger (synergistic) effects against the virus. COMBIVIR is a convenient way of taking lamivudine and zidovudine. COMBIVIR should usually be taken with other anti-HIV therapy.

Will COMBIVIR work the same as EPIVIR and RETROVIR taken together?

Yes, taking one COMBIVIR Tablet twice a day is the same as taking one EPIVIR 150 mg Tablet twice a day and either two RETROVIR 100 mg Capsules three times a day or one RETROVIR 300 mg Tablet twice a day.

How should I take COMBIVIR?

Take COMBIVIR as your doctor prescribes it. The recommended dose is one COMBIVIR Tablet orally two times a day, with or without food. To help make sure you will benefit from COMBIVIR, you must not skip doses or take "drug holidays."

What should I do if I miss a dose of COMBIVIR?

If you miss a dose by more than 4 hours, wait and then take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time. However, if you miss a dose by less than 4 hours, take your missed dose immediately. Then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of COMBIVIR at any one time.

Does COMBIVIR cure HIV infection or AIDS?

No, there is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. People taking COMBIVIR may still develop infections or other illnesses associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important to remain under the care of a healthcare provider. Use of lamivudine plus zidovudine has been shown to help patients with HIV infection stay healthy and live longer.

Does COMBIVIR reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

No, COMBIVIR, as well as other HIV medications, has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Who should not take COMBIVIR?

You should not take COMBIVIR if you have had a serious allergic reaction to either lamivudine or zidovudine.

Do not take COMBIVIR at the same time as EPIVIR or RETROVIR because they also contain lamivudine and zidovudine.

Individual dosing with EPIVIR plus RETROVIR, rather than COMBIVIR, should be considered for:

- A child under 12 years of age.
- Anyone who requires dosage adjustments due to drug side effects or poor kidney function.

What medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my healthcare provider?

Talk to your healthcare provider if:

- You are pregnant or if you become pregnant while taking COMBIVIR. Ask your doctor about enrolling you in the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: 1-800-258-4263.
- You are breastfeeding. Mothers infected with HIV should not breastfeed their infants because HIV is present in breast milk.

Also talk to your doctor about:

- Problems with your blood counts.
- Problems with your muscles.
- Problems with your kidneys.
- Problems with your liver, especially if you have mild or moderate liver disease, such as hepatitis.

Can COMBIVIR be taken with other medications?

Yes, COMBIVIR can be taken with most medications, including most anti-HIV drugs. Be sure to tell your healthcare provider about all medications, over-the-counter or prescription, that you are taking.

What are the possible side effects of COMBIVIR?

Do not rely on this summary alone for information about side effects. Your healthcare provider can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects that may be relevant to you.

The safety of COMBIVIR is not expected to be different from the safety of EPIVIR and RETROVIR given separately.

In clinical studies of lamivudine plus zidovudine, side effects occurring in 5% or more of patients included: muscle and joint pain, headache, nausea, weakness and fatigue, nasal symptoms, cough, diarrhea, nausea and vomiting, neuropathy, trouble sleeping, fever or chills, loss of appetite, dizziness, abdominal pain or cramps, depression, skin rashes, and indigestion.

It's important to know that serious side effects can occur with COMBIVIR, such as a decrease in red and white blood cells and muscle damage. A buildup of lactic acid and an enlarged liver, including fatal cases, have been reported rarely with some HIV drugs, including nucleoside analogues.

For HIV-infected individuals, periodic blood tests are recommended. If certain changes occur in your laboratory results while you are taking COMBIVIR, particularly if you become anemic or if your white blood cell count falls too low, your medication may need to be adjusted; your doctor may prescribe EPIVIR plus RETROVIR separately in place of COMBIVIR.

Tell your doctor promptly about any side effects or other unusual symptoms you may experience.

Other Information

This medication is prescribed for a particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep COMBIVIR and all medicines out of the reach of children.

Like most prescription drugs, lamivudine and zidovudine were required to be tested on animals before they were allowed for human use. In animal studies with doses much higher than those used in humans, zidovudine was associated with vaginal tumors. Your healthcare provider can tell you more about how drugs are tested on animals and what the results of these tests may mean about safety for you.

How should I store COMBIVIR Tablets?

COMBIVIR Tablets may be stored at room temperature and do not require refrigeration.

This provides a summary of information about COMBIVIR. If you have any questions or concerns about COMBIVIR or HIV, talk to your healthcare provider.



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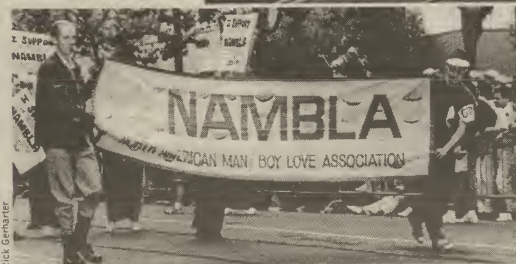


Above: 1992 was the year AIDS deaths peaked in San Francisco, and to bring the point home, members of ACT UP carried a banner in the parade. Right: Members of the direct action group Queer Nation, which protested anti-gay discrimination, in 1991. Below: Native American gays and lesbians at the 1992 festival, which included a teepee.



The transgender community, which has been somewhat excluded from the gay community over the years, is gaining acceptance, though the Pride Parade has yet to have a tranny serve as grand marshal. Below: Transgender activists proudly marched in the 1995 parade.

Clockwise from bottom left: The North American Man/Boy Love Association created controversy in 1992, when members marched in the parade. They were surrounded by supporters; leather revelers show their buns in 1997; the Pride Parade's first contingent from Japan marched in 1992.





Marc Geller



Darrin PhotoGraphics

Clockwise from top left: A couple of lesbians rode in the 1993 parade; "Year of the Queer," was a controversial theme when Gregg Taylor produced the parade in 1993; Jim Gabbert, left, and others anchored the Pride Parade's first television coverage in 1995; a riderless horse with backward boots called attention to those who died of AIDS, 1998; the popular "Got Milk?" drag queen, 1996; blind PWAs marched in 1994.



Rick Gerhardt



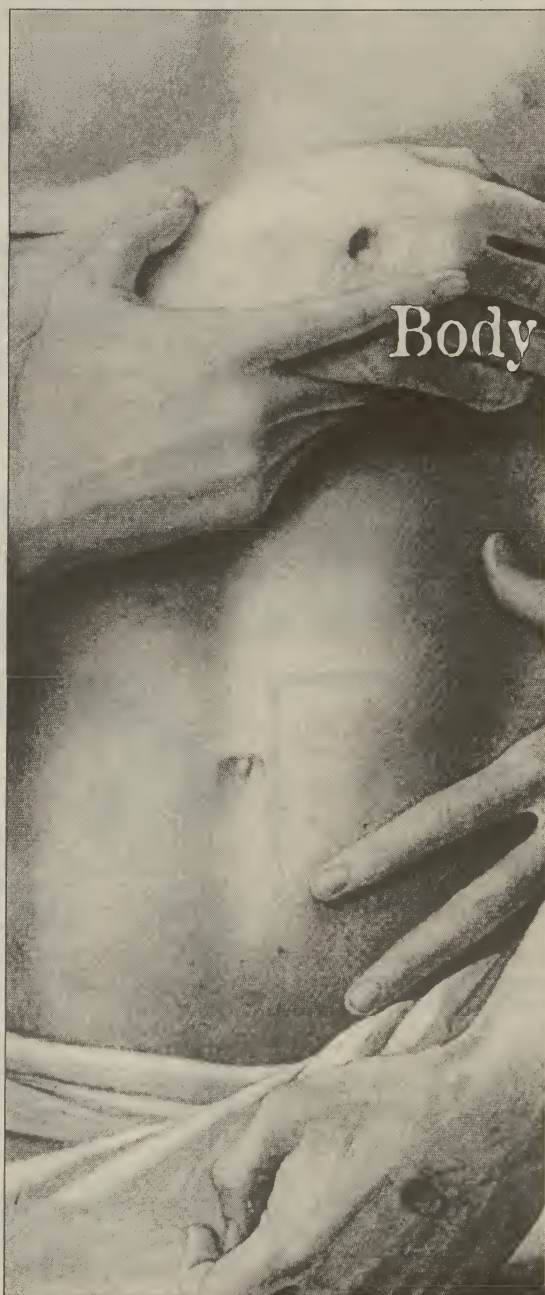
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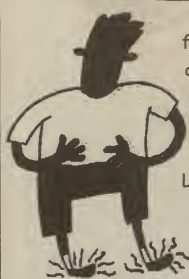
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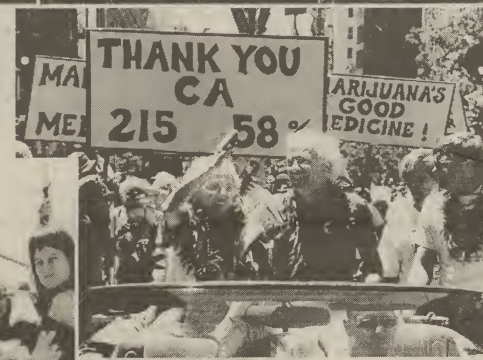
clinical trial suggest a possible reduction in pain in HIV

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Top: Activists called for less commercialization, 1998. Above left: SFPD Deputy Chief Mindy Pengel in 1998. She was recently transferred from the airport unit and now oversees criminal investigations at the department. Above right: A drag queen greets a parade goer, 1994.



Left: "Dykes Love Xena," 1997. Above: The late Brownie Mary and Dennis Peron thanked voters for passing Prop. 215 in 1997. Below: "Cinch and polish," getting ready to ride, 1997. Bottom: Taking a break, 1994.



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Endangered Victorian children
'Junk opera' 'Shockheaded Peter' closes
ACT's season with macabre storytelling.
page 93

Sunset Boulevard II
Miss Norma Desmond on
stage, '...Behind Bars.'
page 90



Rising to the occasion
Axis Dance Company's
'The Ground, the Air...'
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 30 • No. 25 • 22 June 2000

SF International Lesbian & Gay Film Fest 2000 wraps up

The final days

by David Lamble

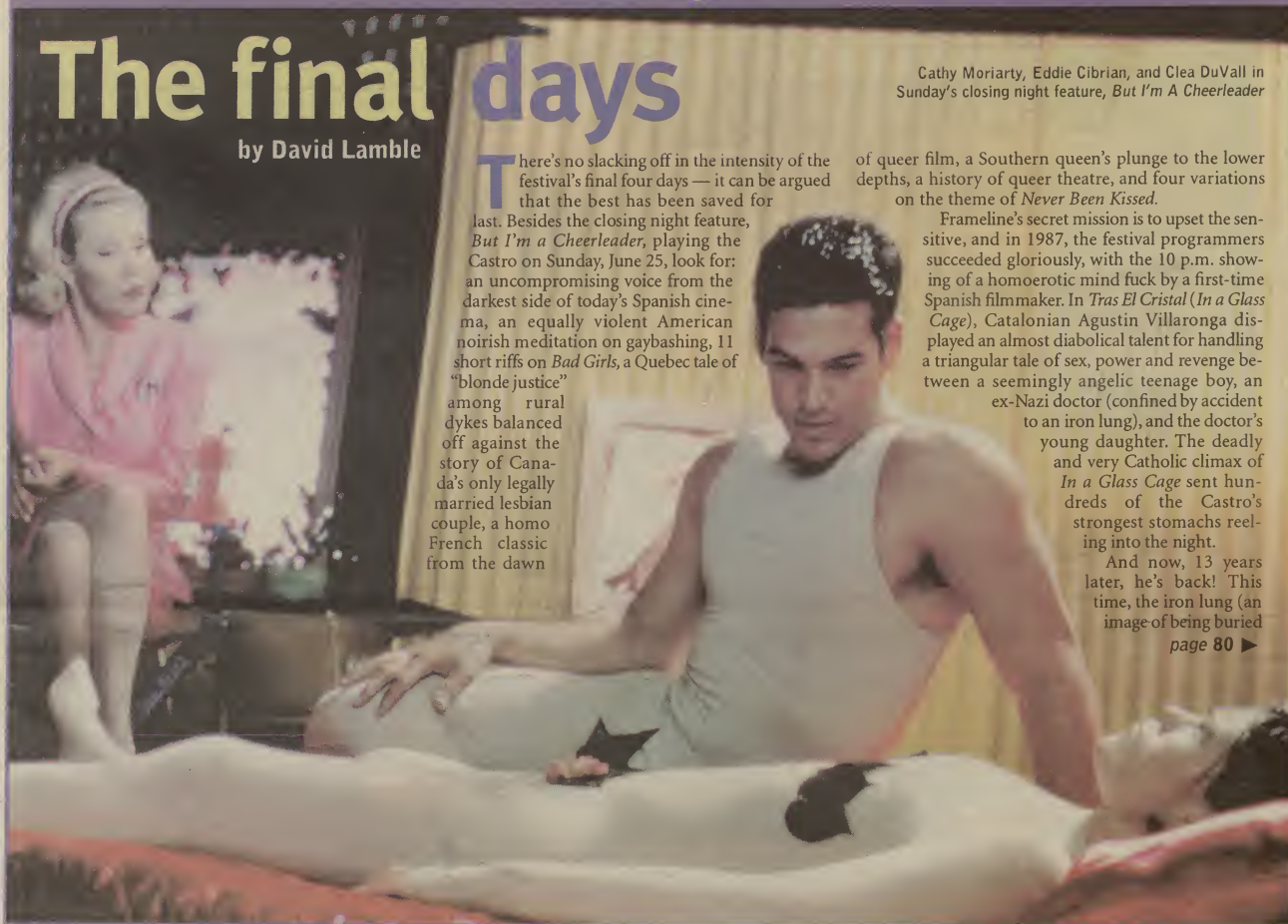
There's no slacking off in the intensity of the festival's final four days — it can be argued that the best has been saved for last. Besides the closing night feature, *But I'm a Cheerleader*, playing the Castro on Sunday, June 25, look for: an uncompromising voice from the darkest side of today's Spanish cinema, an equally violent American noirish meditation on gaybashing, 11 short riffs on *Bad Girls*, a Quebec tale of "blonde justice" among rural dykes balanced off against the story of Canada's only legally married lesbian couple, a homo French classic from the dawn

Cathy Moriarty, Eddie Cibrian, and Clea DuVall in Sunday's closing night feature, *But I'm a Cheerleader*

of queer film, a Southern queen's plunge to the lower depths, a history of queer theatre, and four variations on the theme of *Never Been Kissed*.

Frameline's secret mission is to upset the sensitive, and in 1987, the festival programmers succeeded gloriously, with the 10 p.m. showing of a homoerotic mind fuck by a first-time Spanish filmmaker. In *Tras El Cristal* (*In a Glass Cage*), Catalanian Agustin Villaronga displayed an almost diabolical talent for handling a triangular tale of sex, power and revenge between a seemingly angelic teenage boy, an ex-Nazi doctor (confined by accident to an iron lung), and the doctor's young daughter. The deadly and very Catholic climax of *In a Glass Cage* sent hundreds of the Castro's strongest stomachs reeling into the night.

And now, 13 years later, he's back! This time, the iron lung (an image of being buried
page 80 ►



Mark Lipson

Edmund White on his latest book, 'The Married Man'

A novel approach

by Bradley David

Often called America's premier gay novelist, Edmund White has recently come out with *The Married Man* (Knopf, \$25), his much-anticipated first novel since *The Farewell Symphony* (1997), which completed the autobiographical trilogy that also includes *A Boy's Own Story* (1982) and *The Beautiful Room Is Empty* (1988). With the new book, White has switched from the trilogy's first-person voice to a more objective third-person narration and produced a sad yet often funny novel that focuses more on the topic of AIDS than any of his previous books.

"I touched on it in my collection of short stories [*Skinned Alive*], and I dealt with it in *The*



of resentment, of each other and of the fact that they have to die young and of lots of other things," says White, 60.

A self-described "militant atheist," White has
page 98 ►

Farewell Symphony, but not as much as I have in this one," says White. Regarded as one of the first public figures to come out as HIV-positive, White was diagnosed in 1985 but has a rare "non-progressive" form of the virus and has never been ill.

White is sick, however, of the way AIDS has been sentimentalized by so many writers. He has chosen instead to write honestly — sometimes disturbingly so — about the disease.

"I think gay people who are facing AIDS are often shown in a very heroic or noble light, and I just think ordinary people are full of resentment, of each other and of the fact that they have to die young and of lots of other things," says White, 60.



Author Edmund White

Barbara Trentino

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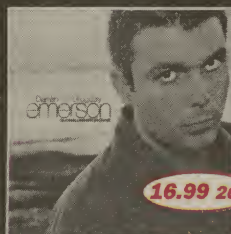
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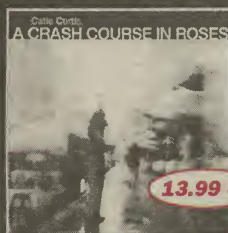
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OUT THERE

by Roberto Friedman
and Varsity Stew

Director Patrik-Ian Polk and the cast of *Punks* were the stars of the hour at the SF Internat'l Lesbian & Gay Film Fest's opening night at the Castro Theatre last week. After getting a look at Polk in the flesh, we perfectly understood the name of *Punks*' production company, Tall Skinny Black Boy Productions.

Long and elegant in his person if not his remarks, Polk gregariously invited the entire audience to the after-party at the bohemian Phoenix Hotel in the 'Loin, where cast and crew were quartered, sulkily. "It's got a club and a pool!" he said with mock enthusiasm. Out There didn't have the heart to remind him that poolside temperatures would dip into the 40s overnight. We think the freakish heat wave here last week, when OT was convinced it was Judgment Day and we were all broasting in Hell, had gone to Polk's head.

Supes Tom Ammi-
ano and Mark
Leno made a
charming pair of
city officials, ap-
pearing side-by-side-by-supervi-
sor on the Castro stage like a couple of celebrity Oscar presenters. Ammi-
ano professed to be "disap-
pointed that Leno didn't wear the
Jennifer Lopez dress," and Leno
dutifully mimed a risqué turn in a
low-cut gown. Ammi-ano said he'd
left his lei in the dressing room.



Punks actor Seth Gilliam and director Patrik-Ian Polk at opening night.

After the film, in the festive circle-spotted "Pavilion," Out There was thrilled to mingle with *Punks*' actors, all of whom showed a light touch with the film's romantic comedy. The movie is like a hotel pool: not very deep, but fun enough to romp in. We watched the handsome Seth Gilliam, who plays Marcus, unscrew his bottle of designer water at the

party and slurp it down — glug, glug, glug!

Welcoming wagon

Here we are, smack dab in the thick of Gay Pride Week, and there's so much of queer interest going on around town, poor Out There's head is spinning. We know

a lot of lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender (LGBT) tourists are in town this week for all the festivities, so instead of the usual smarmy in-jokes and SF-style horse-trading, we thought we'd present a brief guide to our hometown for the visiting **LGBTourist**.

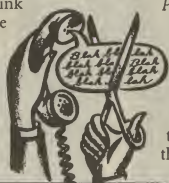
If you are a nostalgic LGB-Tourist with great memories of the bohemian San Francisco of your youth, don't bother trying to recapture it around every corner. Lady Boho has left the house! If you're going to San Francisco, as the old song goes, be sure to wear some valet parking stubs in your hair.

If you are a LGBTourist driving a piggy SUV, and you cut pedestrian us off in the crosswalk, that "ping" you hear is the sound of a shiny new penny bouncing off your custom paint job.

If you are a LGBTalented LGB-Tourist and you feel compelled to share your writing, dancing, singing, film or spiritual mantras with the entire queer world this month, consider that every other LGBTalented in the known universe has had the same idea, and you're up against some pretty stiff competition for our attention.

Already this month we've heard the Magnetic Fields' magnificent pout **Stephin Merritt** rhapsodize about "a pretty boy in his underwear"; attended a garden party thrown by SF author **Robert Glück** for guest of honor **Edmund White**; had to turn down the chance to hear pioneer out gay rocker **Tom Robinson** give a private concert in a Castro home (despite the fact that Out There came

page 99 ►



Out There



Supervisors Tom Ammi-ano and Mark Leno before the *Punks* screening.

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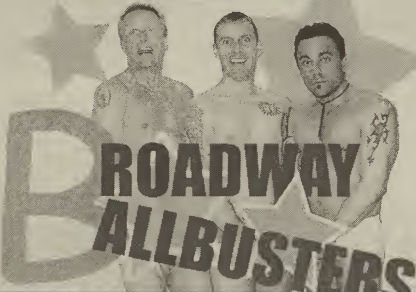
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The King and I*A musical 'Gaveston,' after 'Edward II'*

by Richard Dodds

The new musical work titled *Gaveston* presumes that audiences will arrive familiar with its basic story. It would be a risky presumption except for the fact that it follows closely on the heels of ACT's high-profile production of Marlowe's *Edward II*.

Even those who only heard about director Mark Lamos' hyper-gay production at the Geary Theater may have gotten an informal history lesson about the 14th-century monarch who loses his kingdom and his life for his insatiable love for the man named Gaveston. Two hundred years later, Christopher Marlowe unblushingly dramatized this love that didn't even have a name, and now local writers Ken Prestininzi and Christopher Winslow have set the story to music.

Having its premiere as a staged concert at St. Gregory Nyssen Episcopal Church, *Gaveston* is obviously still a work in progress. But the quality and seriousness of intent that marks Winslow's music and Prestininzi's libretto and lyrics emerge in this exceedingly well-sung production.

The form of the piece is not easily categorizable, though oratorio or chamber opera seem more appropriate descriptions than the usual notions of musical theater. Ten movements are listed in the program, and in each movement there are several musical pieces that may be just a few moments long or fill out into a traditional song form.

Winslow's complex music, often laced with inviting melody, is in a similar vein to what such contemporary theater composers as Michael John LaChiusa and Adam Guettel are writing. Prestininzi's lyrics are rich both in emotion and intellect.

What the material fails to do, at least in the current setting, is to pull fluidly together. The musical segments often end abruptly, though they could do so effectively if they were to lead directly into more music or at least dialogue. The result is a disconcerting chopiness (and a running time that is

Larry Miller, Antoine Garth, and Wingate Greathouse in *Gaveston*

close to three hours).

Clearly, and wisely, singers were selected over actors for the cast. While the emoting can be awkward when the performers are without song, they each distinguish themselves when the music starts to play. As Edward, J. Wingate Greathouse doesn't have the biggest voice in the company, but it is an expressive instrument. Antoine Garth's *Gaveston* starts out as a self-confident rogue whose growing depth is potentially communicated in song by the performer.

As Mortimer, the king's main enemy, Larry Miller can be an awkward presence, but he becomes an authoritative power whenever he sings. As Edward's neglected queen, Marcie Henderson has both a dynamic presence and voice. And as Spencer, Tom Hart has a particularly dramatic instrument. Solid sounds also

emit from Galienne Eriksen, Doug Mallon, and Dorothy Anton. Eric Butte doesn't sing but projects the prince's shedding adolescence. Only Brian Yates Sharber is off the mark, setting an ill-advised jokey tone as the narrator and communicating little threat as an assassin.

The musical accompaniment by piano, violin, viola, and cello is first-class. Even in the stripped-down physical circumstances of this first production, it's clear that the musical components of the show were not shortchanged. With further attention to structure and staging, *Gaveston* could emerge as an important piece of musical theater. ▼

Gaveston will run at St. Gregory Nyssen Episcopal Church through June 24. Tickets are \$20. Call 648-8439.

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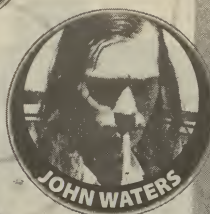
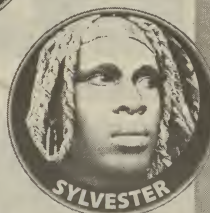
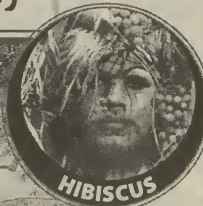
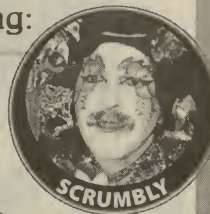
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Axis Dance Company's 'The Ground, the Air and Places in Between'

by Aimée Ts'ao

Living in the Bay Area makes most of us less surprised by the unusual and the radically different. Not that we've become blasé or jaded, but in the course of daily life we are constantly running into people from different cultures and places of origin, people who have chosen to express themselves in non-traditional ways, and people whose differences are the result of circumstance, not choice. Choreographer Bill T. Jones remarked in a recent interview, "In the Bay Area, the marginal becomes the norm."

Even within this rich tapestry of human diversity, there are low-profile and nearly invisible groups. The disabled community is one of them. Unfortunately, most people are oblivious to the fact that anyone can join this disabled minority in the fraction of a second it takes to snap a spine or crush legs in an accident.

For 13 years, Axis Dance Company, based in Oakland, has been combining the talents of both disabled and able-bodied dancers in what is now called "integrated



Stephanie McGlynn and Megan Schirle of Axis Dance Company

dance." Currently at the helm are co-directors Judith Smith, a disabled lesbian who has been with Axis since its inception, and Nicole Richter, who joined in 1997. In an effort to expand their horizons, Axis has just begun to commission choreography from those artists whose work they admire, instead of relying solely on

their own in-house talent. The resulting program of works by Bill T. Jones, Joe Goode, Sonya Delwaide and Joanna Haigood, titled *The Ground, the Air and Places in Between*, will have its West Coast premiere June 22-24 at the Cowell Theater as part of the National Queer Arts Festival.

To show the birth of this trend, co-director Smith said, "Some of us have been working with the company for between 8 and 13 years and were ready to have some new input, new ideas and a fresh look at our capabilities. Personally, I was feeling pretty stagnant, as I had wanted to start commissioning work back in 1995. Part of the reason for getting works from very well-known and respected artists was because I felt we deserved to have some notoriety. Then we would also be able to attract other choreographers."

Shut up and dance

Their first encounter with an outside choreographer was with Sonya Delwaide, a French-Canadian recently transplanted to the East Bay. Smith said, "When we first started working with Sonya, we would offer suggestions, and she would say, 'No, just shut up and dance.' It was such a relief not to be responsible for every second of the piece."

After creating *Chuchotements* (*Whisperings*), Delwaide recalled, "I feel I've been working with them all of my life. At first I wasn't sure what they were able to do, but I was inspired by how open they were to anything I asked them to try."

As the new course gained momentum, Axis began working with local choreographers Joanna Haigood and Joe Goode. Haigood's *Descending Chords* premiered at Dance Umbrella's International Festival of Aerial Dance last year, and co-director Richter remembers that "when we showed her piece in Boston, we were the only integrated company, and people in the audience didn't realize that Uli Schmitz, who performs on a suspended ladder, was disabled until he took his bow in a wheelchair."

Haigood summed up her experience working with them like this: "It was challenging working with bodies that are very different from my own. It took some time

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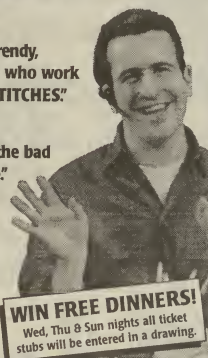
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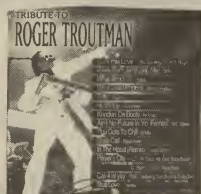
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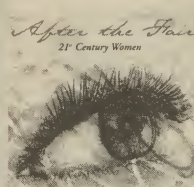
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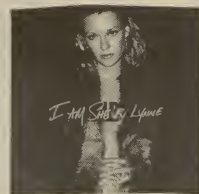
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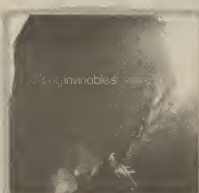
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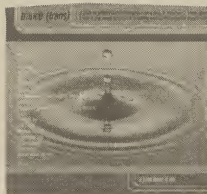
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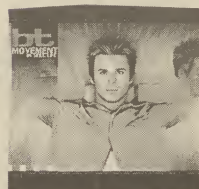
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Cliché by the Bay

Hometown homos look for Mr. Right in 'Gypsy Boys,' part of SFILGFF

by Robert Julian

Gay/lesbian film festivals serve the community, and the world at large, by providing new filmmakers an opportunity to

express their own personal vision. Sometimes this vision is startlingly original and entertaining, despite the technical deficiencies that often come with no-budget cinema. And sometimes the love that dare not speak its name

would be better served by silence. Unfortunately, *Gypsy Boys* falls into the latter category. Producer, writer, and director Brian Shepp serves up a wealth of clichés and stereotypes with this no-brainer.

Shepp's fledgling effort about the San Francisco singles scene details the events of one weekend. It opens as Steven (Adam Gavzer), Kevin (Tom McCann), and Blair (Jud Parker) head out to the bar for a night of cruising. The next morning, we follow the boys as they recover from the night before and prepare for an evening party. Then, in the film's last act, the cast heads for the disco, where they dish, dance, and whine about the sorry state of their lives and relationships. The gay men portrayed here all study at the Have Another Cocktail School of Homosexuality.

The acting in *Gypsy Boys* is amateurish, but the cast is poorly served by a script that provides few opportunities for credibility. At one point Kevin, who is writing a book about his life, comments that "90% of life is fluff." This observation from the pen of Brian Shepp says everything about his film and its content. Shepp concentrates his energies on the superficial, while ignoring the other ten percent. The characters mix drinks and rehash their relationships — new and old — accusing, excusing, and recusing themselves from responsibility for their lives. *Gypsy Boys* has all the elements of *Queer As Folk*, with none of the latter's intelligence and wit.



"90% of life is fluff": a scene from *Gypsy Boys*

It is something of a miracle that Alberto Rosas, in the role of Manny, actually manages to turn in a compelling, three-dimensional portrait of something that approximates a real human being. When Rosas speaks, you believe him, and because of his efforts, Manny emerges as the only sympathetic character in the film. Handsome Steve Rodriguez provides eye candy in the role of Jonathan, and — somewhat inexplicably — all the Latino cast members manage to emerge from this mess with their dignity intact. But the black, white, and Asian cast members are strictly post-lobotomy, and the constant presence of composer Rich McCracken's house music only serves to

deepen the monotony. Adding insult to injury, writer/director/producer Shepp spends almost two hours obsessing about queer sex without offering the consolation prize of a single dick shot.

Gypsy Boys recalls films like *Lie Down With Dogs* and *All the Rage*, where the urban gay male experience is miniaturized by a focus on self-centered, immature brats who put down everyone and then wonder why their efforts to find Mr. Right are constantly thwarted. In cinema, as in life, this is not interesting. ▼

Gypsy Boys, plays Saturday June 24, 8:30 p.m., Castro Theatre.



Legally married lesbians in *Two Brides and a Scalpel*

L&G Film Fest

◀ previous page

practical advice (*Gun Is Useless* is a "Lesbian Militia" handbook for homebrewed self-defense, including such esoterica as the hand torch, with its exploding paper gunpowder.)

Saucy boys will get off to a sexy Castro matinee of *Never Been Kissed* (6/22, 1:45 p.m.). The program's title derives from the plight of three-days-shy-of-18 Christopher (in *Birthday Time*), whose mission impossible begins in a high school toilet and climaxes with surprising sweetness in his own bed. *He Bop!* and *Crush* both demonstrate how a girl can be a guy's best friend in the search for a same-sex smooch. And finally,

Close to Heaven is a beautifully poignant exploration of the meaning of the old phrase, "like moths to a flame."

Pre-op bop

How do you become the first legally married lesbian couple in Canada? Well, it's not a job for the faint of heart, or for someone who isn't prepared to give up something (and not just for Lent). The marriage of Georgina Scott (formerly George) and Linda Fraser came about when the two met during Georgina's two-year pre-operative hormone phase of his/her gender reassignment. One of Georgina and Linda's closest neighbors just happened to be a notable filmmaker (Mark Achbar, codirector of *Noam Chomsky*:

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Mysteries galore

by Deborah Peifer

Who knew I had such power? Just a few weeks ago, I lamented the dearth of lesbian mysteries, and now I have three about which to rave. Could this force work on the presidential elections? Could I decide the winner now, and end months of tedious campaigning? Just in case I can't, do please register to vote for Al (at least I'm not George, Jr.) Gore. The last thing we women, queers, progressives, and humans need is Shrub choosing Supreme Court justices. If you need more reasons to vote against Junior, check out *Shrub: The Short but Happy Political Life of George W. Bush* by Molly Ivins and Lou Dubose (Random House, \$19.95), a truly frightening look at Dubya's abysmal record in Texas.

Speaking of fright (transitions are my life), Claire McNab's newest Carol Ashton mystery, *Under Suspicion* (Naiad, \$11.95), offers terrors of a new and exceptionally creepy kind. Carol is in the United States for an FBI seminar, and that means when a classmate is found murdered, Carol is

not in charge of the investigation, a serious problem for Detective Inspector control freak. When Carol is accused of the murder, she is forced to rely on the kindness of American law enforcement, not a happy place to be in the best of circumstances.

McNab writes with extraordinary skill, creating a suspenseful mystery that hurtles to a breath-taking conclusion. Her characters

are vividly drawn individuals, and we care a great deal about what happens to them. McNab has been living in the US (if Los Angeles counts) for the past several years, but her observations of things American

still hold the pointed perspective of a non-native. One of the gifts of this novel is the chance to see ourselves as others see us. A larger gift, of course, is the chance to spend quality time with one of the most interesting cops in fiction. *Under Suspicion* is a real winner.

Dutch treat

First novels usually require some tempering of the critical gaze, or at least a warning, but Jenny Roberts avoids newbie pitfalls in her very fine first novel, *Needle Point* (Diva, \$13.95). Set mostly in Amsterdam, *Needle Point* focuses on Cameron McGill's quest to discover why her beloved sister was found floating in a canal, dead of an overdose of an unknown drug. Cameron knows that Carrie never touched drugs, and she cannot accept the easy explanation from the Dutch police that Carrie must have concealed her addiction from her sister. Crushed by her own grief, Cam decides to go to Amsterdam and see what she can learn about Carrie's last weeks in the city, to discover whether Carrie's last assignment as a journalist might have something to do with her death.

As an amateur detective, Cam makes the kind of mistakes we all



would in the circumstances, but her courage in tackling the mystery makes her an endearing and, I hope, enduring personality. Roberts provides enough information about the city and the people of Amsterdam to make the place and its inhabitants come alive. Her characters ring entirely true, especially the villains. The plot is labyrinthine but not impossible to follow, the denouement is believable and truly terrifying. The evil that comes out of capitalism run amok is appalling. *Needle Point* is a remarkable novel, well worth your time and treasure.

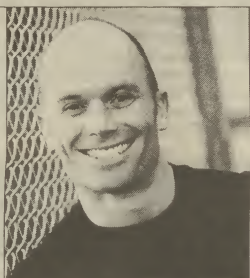
Val McDermid's Lindsay Gordon mysteries are originally published in the UK, but if we are very well-behaved, they eventually turn up in the US. *Booked for Murder*, the fifth in the line, is now available from Spinners (\$12), and it is a gruesome, spellbinding and completely satisfying novel. Lindsay Gordon has been living in California, enjoying beaches and air conditioning for the past year, and can think of no good reason to move back to London, until life imitates art in a particularly grisly fashion. Her friend, Penny, a best-selling writer, is killed using the method she invented for her current, unpublished novel. When Penny's ex-lover becomes the number one suspect in the murder

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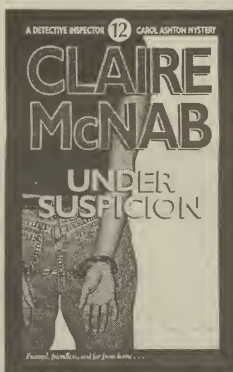
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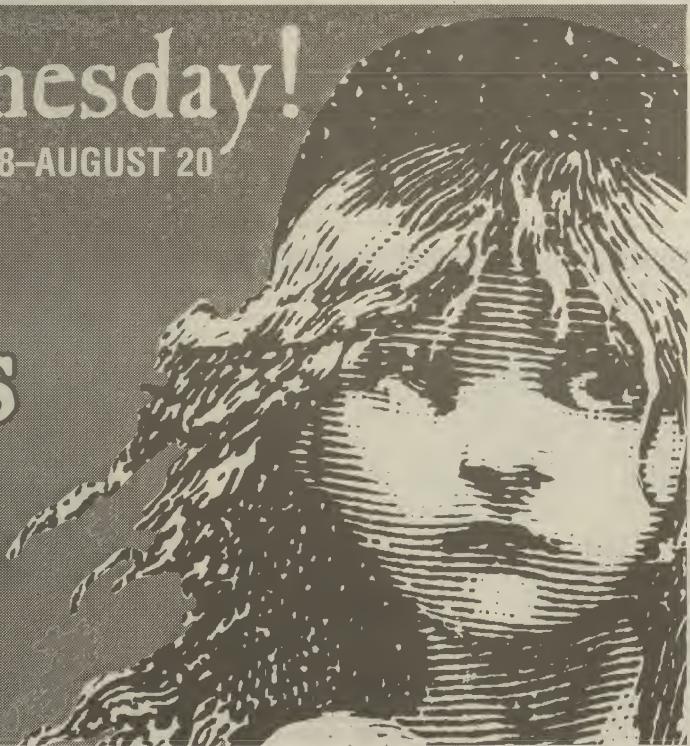
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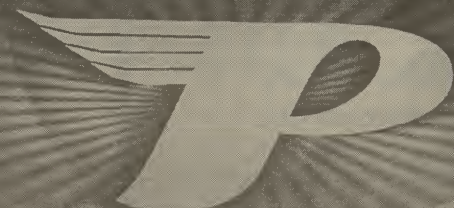
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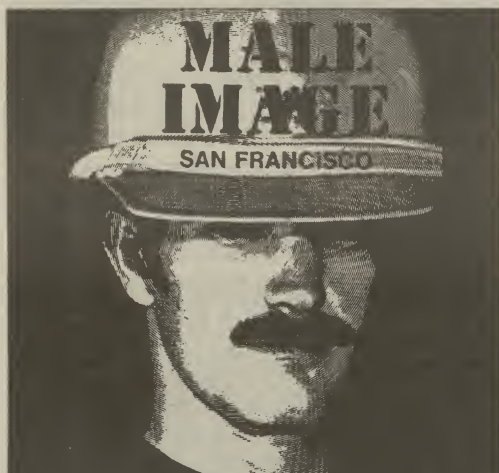
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Observing queer Israel

by Alex Robertson Textor

Between Sodom and Eden: A Gay Journey through Today's Changing Israel, by Lee Walzer; Columbia Univ. Press, \$19.

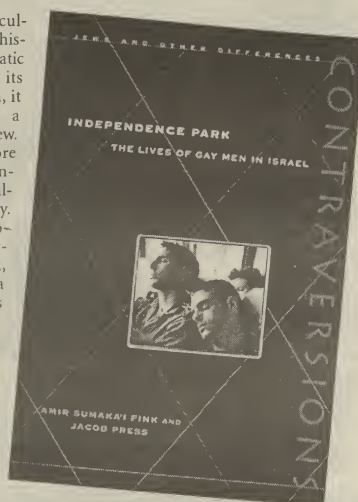
Independence Park: The Lives of Gay Men in Israel, by Amir Sumaka'i Fink and Jacob Press; Stanford Univ. Press, \$19.95.

Lee Walzer's *Between Sodom and Eden* and Amir Sumaka'i Fink and Jacob Press' *Independence Park* both offer an Anglophone reading public considerable insight into segments of gay life in Israel. *Independence Park* presents oral histories of 12 gay men in Israel, while *Between Sodom and Eden* moves journalistically through several spheres of Israeli life — Judaism, the state of the lesbian/gay political movement, kibbutz culture, the military, the Palestinian minority, and the media, among others. Walzer patterns his *Between Sodom and Eden* after David Tuller's *Cracks in the Iron Closet*, which pursued a similar methodology to examine Russian gay life and culture. Though apologetic, Walzer focuses predominantly, though by no means exclusively, on gay men.

These books assume little prior familiarity with Israeli life. For a reader whose knowledge of Israel is decent but by no means detailed (like mine), their explorations of basic Israeli culture and history are handy. Fink and Press' back-

ground to Israeli cultural and political history is more schematic than Walzer's. In its concentrated form, it actually provides a more potent overview. Walzer offers a more dispersed set of insights into Israeli culture and history. While this is appropriate for his journalistic framework, it might leave a reader anxious about, for example, the precise historical meanings of Zionism — a concept crucial to any understanding of the genesis of the Israeli state, and the significance of Israel within the Jewish Diaspora.

In both books, the intimate association of the state and lesbian/gay life in Israel is foregrounded. Israel's concentration of the Jewish Diaspora brings together a massive range of people and ways of practicing Judaism. Walzer emphasizes that Jewish identity in Israel is viewed as a kind of basic shared collectivity, one that binds and connects. Both books emphasize that the very progressive recent policy and legal shifts vis-à-vis lesbian/gay life in Israel are taking place "within the Israeli consensus," and are not being advanced in a more adver-



sarial American kind of political tradition. This development is in keeping with both books' interpretation of the intimate relation of the state to public life in Israel.

Gay reception

Walzer's book falters in a number of places. He writes imprecisely at points, and at some junctures he ascribes certain phenomena to Israel life that, it could easily be argued, are more the domain of post-industrial states in general. On the latter point, Walzer notes that the public/media reception of lesbian and gay themes changed drastically between the early and late 1990s, without observing that in fact a very similar process can be charted in dozens of other countries, notably in Scandinavia, and less obviously in the UK and Spain, among other places. Fink and Press' effort is less assailable to these criticisms, since it restricts their own authorial commentary to a minimum.

Clearly, the two books are different in their organizational styles. While Walzer employs a journalistic method simply to take stock of contemporary Israel, Fink and Press allow the substance of contemporary and recent Israeli life to be expressed in the commentary and observations of particular interview subjects. Walzer's interviewees are quoted at length throughout, though he himself does most of the synthesizing. While Walzer offers pinpointed analysis of events generally deemed significant to the state of lesbian/gay life in Israel, Fink and Press permit their interviewees to do the bulk of the talking. Walzer devotes one chapter to Palestinian gay life in *Between Sodom and Eden*, while one of Fink and Press' twelve interview subjects is Arab. The Palestinian population of Israel is around 18%.

As research projects, the two books are also very different. Walzer clearly embarked upon a massive undertaking, involving both fieldwork and archival research. Fink and Press' project, from the research end, is less formidable.

Both *Independence Park* and *Between Sodom and Eden* are welcome and exciting books. For an American reading public, they offer important insights into a very different national context, one where lesbian/gay rights are considerably more advanced than they are in the US. Because the two methodologies showcased are so different from one another, they are also good companion pieces. ▼

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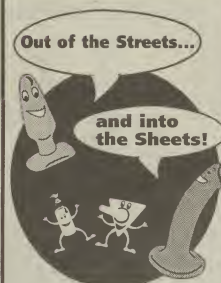
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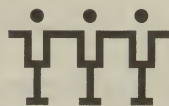


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TELEVISION

Queer parenting

PBS on gay families in America

by Robert Julian

The queer families profiled in *Our House* are so ordinary, so normal, and so unremarkable you just know they're going to drive conservatives and Christian fundamentalists right up the wall. The kids, with only one exception, are heterosexual. The parents, with only one exception, are not. But their cumulative experiences reflect the prejudices and homophobia of the communities in which they live. In Manhattan and on Long Island, it's no big deal; in Arkansas, both parents and children endure daily harassment.

Producer/director Meema Spadola wisely focuses on the children, but the more revealing statements come from the parents, who are more experienced and articulate than their kids. Spadola's work doesn't debate anything, it just shows the families in their daily lives, and allows the children and parents to speak for themselves about their experiences in family units with gay parents.

Among the more interesting revelations are those of a rather butch lesbian mother who isn't too comfortable with the increasing butchness of her own lesbian



Pat and Rochelle in the pool with kids Joniyah, Sandor and Saveon, in Montclair, New Jersey: a scene from *Our House*.

daughter, and the four-year court battle the same family endured when the sperm donor sued for full parental rights. Gay and lesbian viewers will probably find few surprises in *Our House*. They already know that a household with gay parents isn't much different from any other. But this validation of the gay parenting experience has an intrinsic value of its own for the community.

Spadola has done a nice,

even-handed job with *Our House*. But the film misses one great opportunity when it fails to mention the occupations of the parents. By excluding the work aspect of these families, the filmmaker misses an opportunity to further illuminate the variety and diversity of the gay parenting experience. Yet this is a minor quibble with an otherwise smart and engaging work. ▼

Our House: A Very Real Documentary About Kids of Gay and Lesbian Parents airs on KQED, Channel 9 on Thurs., 6/22, 10:30 p.m.

and *Seventh Heaven*. The runner-up: NBC, for bringing us the delightful *W&G*, the ever-efete *Frasier*, and consistent queer storylines in top shows like *ER*, *West Wing* and *Law & Order*. NBC loses points for dropping *Profiler* and *Pretender*, both with queer characters. CBS and Fox tie for their dearth of queer programming or characterizations (*The Simpsons* just isn't enough.) ABC needs to try harder — *Spin City*'s Carter needs a life, as does *NYPD Blue*'s John.

The Boo, Hiss Award goes to any network that runs the syndicated *700 Club*, for presenting homophobia in the guise of religion under the aegis of Rev. Pat Robertson.

Finally, the WB gets the Only Queer Couple on Network TV Award for Willow and Tara on *Buffy*. While we applaud *Buffy*, creator Joss Whedon and the WB for this coup, we shouldn't have to give awards in this category. It's time for all those single queers to get partners and lives, and that includes Will of *W&G*. Memo to the networks: We come in groups, not singles. Get over it. ▼

Lavender Tube

◀ previous page

into her book club.

The Best New Drama Award goes to *The West Wing*. Not only is this one of the best-written shows on network TV (oh, how we love that snappy dialogue), but the show consistently deals with queer issues, from hate crimes legislation to don't ask, don't tell. Top-notch, high-test political drama for thinking viewers.

Runner-up in this category is *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*. Though not nearly as well-written as *WW*, this show has, from its inception last season, kept queer plots front and center.

The Best Old Drama Award ties between *NYPD Blue*, *Law & Order* and *ER* for consistent queer storylines.

The Best Network for Queer Programming Award goes to the WB for consistently raising the bar for the networks by queering up top shows like *Buffy*, *The Vampire Slayer*, *Dawson's Creek*, *Charmed*



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Golden lions

When the sweet bird of youth flies away

by Tavo Amador

Bookstore shelves sag with self-help volumes, most too simplistic and general to be of use. But *Golden Men* by Harold Kooden, Ph.D., with Charles Flowers (Avon Books, \$14), is an exception, because it's one of the few books addressing issues facing gay men as we hit middle age. Since it applies to me, I was curious about what it had to say.

Psychologist Kooden outlines key developmental differences between gay men and "nongay" men, a term chosen to emphasize that both sexual orientations are normal, although each has unique characteristics. The central theme is how the ongoing coming out process — to oneself, family, friends, classmates, colleagues, neighbors — is instrumental in reversing negative images of homosexuality as well as aging. The latter are prevalent in American society in general, but especially rampant

among gay men and nongay women. Fear of aging and homophobia result in the stereotype of the lonely, bitter old queen.

Kooden illustrates how nongay adolescence is filled with rituals celebrating the change from childhood to adulthood: bar mitzvahs for Jews, confirmations for Catholics, senior proms for high school graduates. They help the adolescent cope with physical changes and nascent sexuality. But those rituals don't apply to gay adolescence. Instead, nongay society condemns homosexuality, resulting in internalized

homophobia and denial of what the teenager is feeling. The author argues that adolescence for gay men is therefore delayed, not biologically, but emotionally. This delay leads to a different progression to adulthood and the perceived immaturity of gay men.

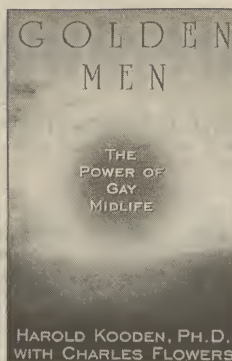
Kooden outlines four ages for gay men: chronological or clock

age, based on our birthdate; biological, or body age, based on certain physical characteristics, including how a gay man looks in relation to other men his clock age; experiential or heart age, which has an emotional component and is the age a man feels he is; and a sexual or gay age, defined as "how long a man has been practicing and preparing for the adult expression of his sexual orientation."

Although these four ages overlap, society conditions us to focus only on the first two, which often results in panic and depression when we discover, like Alexandra del Lago in Tennessee Williams's *Sweet Bird of Youth*, that "It wasn't that I was old. It's just that I wasn't young anymore."

New tools

Kooden's book provides new tools for measuring: ourselves,



points out how unacknowledged internalized homophobia damages our self-image, and shows how the ongoing coming out process offers opportunities to develop in new and healthy ways as we mature.

Since the coming out process is not tied to chronological age, its benefits can begin early or later in our lives. Kooden provides effective, often painful exercises that help us capitalize on having come out, mitigating the damage caused by negative self-images. Examples of these images include difficulty in accepting praise for worthwhile

accomplishments; fear of revealing our true selves to anyone; obsession with "looking good" as defined by unrealistic standards; and terror of the unavoidable physical changes accompanying chronological aging.

The book doesn't deny the difficulties we face when hitting middle age or as we grow older. But Kooden convincingly argues that by letting go of behaviors developed to protect us from homophobia, we will find that middle age is meaningful, fulfilling (including sexually fulfilling) and rewarding in ways lacking when we were younger. He cites the remarkable response to the AIDS crisis as proof of our collective and individual strength, and shows how lessons learned from it apply far beyond our physical health.

He discusses work and play, and assesses the role of money in our lives. He is excellent at showing how having enough money (which varies by individual lifestyle) can be liberating. However, money and its importance in our society, particularly as we get older, is not really discussed, which is unfortunate. As Maggie warns in Tennessee Williams's *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, "You can be young without money, but you can't be old without it."

Carloads of money management books are available, so compensating for that shortcoming in *Golden Men* is easy. Its great value is in the tools provided for self-analysis, which will free us to be our true selves. Kooden shows how the ongoing coming out process starts with accepting, embracing, and announcing our sexual orientation, then enables our unique selves to emerge, unapologetically. He concedes it isn't easy. But in jargon-free language, he describes the awaiting benefits, encourages us to undertake the journey, and draws a map to guide us.

The voyage promises to be liberating and rewarding. ▼

Book Report

◀ page 82

der, thanks to the fact that she read the manuscript and therefore knew how to do the deed, the call of friendship brings Lindsay back to the British Isles to investigate the murder and clear her friend. McDermid knows how to make suspenseful plots and villains that will curl your hair. Her sleuth is smart, funny, and easily irritated, especially by people who try to kill her to stop her investigation. *Booked for Murder* is a great read.

Miscellany

Kate Scannell reads from her extraordinary memoir, *Death of the Good Doctor*, at A Different Light on June 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Author and editor Jess Wells (*The Price of Passion, Lip Service*) seeks "well-crafted stories of lesbian love, near-love, wrong love, great love, as well as heartfelt and literary love" for a new Alyson anthology, *Love Shook My Heart II*. You can e-mail her at jesswells@earthlink.net for submission guidelines, but hurry. The submission deadline is August 31, 2000. ▼

If you have gossip, inquiries or information of a literary nature, send them to peiferd@aol.com.

THE CAMPUS DOUBLE HEADER

The New Meat Campus is proud to present two action-packed world premieres the weekend of San Francisco's Gay Pride: **SEX PACK 2** and **THE BARE DICK PROJECT**.

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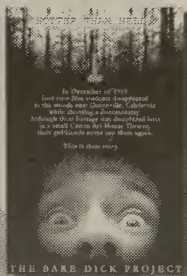


Chris Ward and JD Slater present

JUNE 24: SEX PACK 2 @ 9pm

Allan Alan Pictures present

JUNE 25: BARE DICK PROJECT @ 9:30pm



On June 25th, Allan Alan Pictures present **THE BARE DICK PROJECT** at 9:30pm. In December of 1999, three cute film students disappeared in the woods near Guernville, California while shooting a documentary. Although their footage was discovered later in a small Castro Art House Theater, their girlfriends never saw them again. This is their story. Meet the stars at a champagne reception immediately following the screening.

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9:30pm followed by
the CAST PARTY

SLEAZY SEX TRADE
1pm, 6pm, and 9:30pm
the world premiere of
THE BARE DICK PROJECT
9:30pm followed by
the CAST PARTY

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Glamour in the slammer

'Miss Desmond Behind Bars' at 7th Note

by Richard Dodds

Right after the final curtain calls for *Miss Desmond Behind Bars*, ringsider Mayor Willie Brown climbed on stage to say a few words. "I didn't understand half the lines," he told the opening-night audience. "Come on, admit it. You didn't, either."

Since the mayor, who had prompted a standing ovation, seemed to enjoy the high-spirited show, perhaps it helps to intellectually fly below the radar of the low-brow camp that makes up much of the humor. Me, I'm pretty sure I understood all the lines in this parody of the unmade sequel to *Sunset Boulevard*.

Miss Desmond grew out of a two-performance AIDS benefit a group of friends in Los Angeles put together last year. It was such a success that a full-scale production was mounted at a 99-seat theater in LA, which in turn has led to the big-budget affair on view at the expansive 7th Note Showclub in North Beach.

The kind of show that once might have filled Josie's Cabaret on a shoestring budget, *Miss Desmond* is obviously aimed at gays and straights, tourists and locals. That's a tall order. Of course, the whole set-up for the show requires a knowledge and affection for the movie *Sunset Boulevard*, which may not be the demographic for the folks who once

flocked to Finocchio's in search of a safe taste of San Francisco decadence.

For local gays and savvy straights, the novelty of guaranteed humor by putting a man in a dress is definitely over. Not that drag will ever be out, but it needs genuine wit to reawaken it, at least for seen-it-all paying customers. But too much of the book by Mark Goff and Erin Quigley is

shooting her lover, was tried and convicted for murder, and then sentenced to the Hollywood Women's Correctional Institute. Norma believes she's making a prison movie, a fantasy abetted by gossip columnist Hedda Hopper and the publicity-hungry prison matron. An attempted escape and a few plot convolutions lead to a surprise ending.

The cast, several of whom orig-



David Bouzas as Hedda Hopper, and Gregory Messer as Miss Desmond

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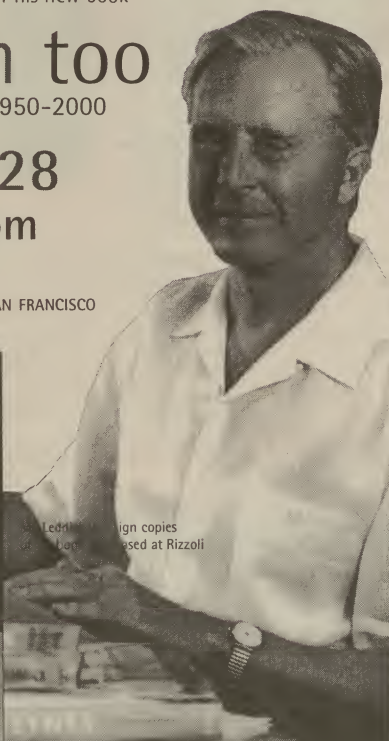
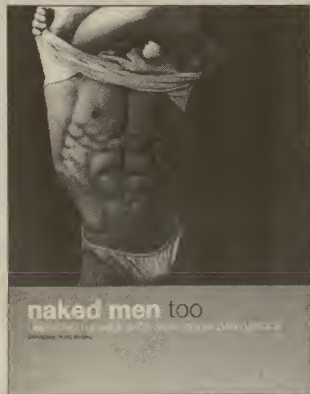
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David Leddick signing copies of 'naked men too' at Rizzoli

made up of clunky and obvious one-liners that are seldom more subtle than the recurring broadsides about the size of the one of the character's backsides.

It is in the music that real wit occasionally emerges, though it may be lost on those whose knowledge of popular culture stretches only from *Titanic* to *Everyone Loves Raymond*. In "Pop the Weasel Lament," composer Leo Savalas and lyricists Goff and Quigley hilariously, but with musicality, suggest the operatic pretensions that have found their way into musical theater. Quigley's on-target staging in this number heightens a humor that is musically broad yet sophisticated.

But there are other times when the writers can't help themselves from offering up serious songs that prove they can write halfway-decent Broadway-style material, but that slow the flow of the fun that should always take precedence. Even when the songs are intending to amuse, the notion behind them is often funnier than the lyrics are able to realize. It's similar to the problems with the script, which primes you for a snappy zinger or retort, but often fails to find the payoff after the setup.

Movie fantasy

Miss Desmond opens with an elaborately produced mock newsreel that recounts how the former silent film star was arrested for

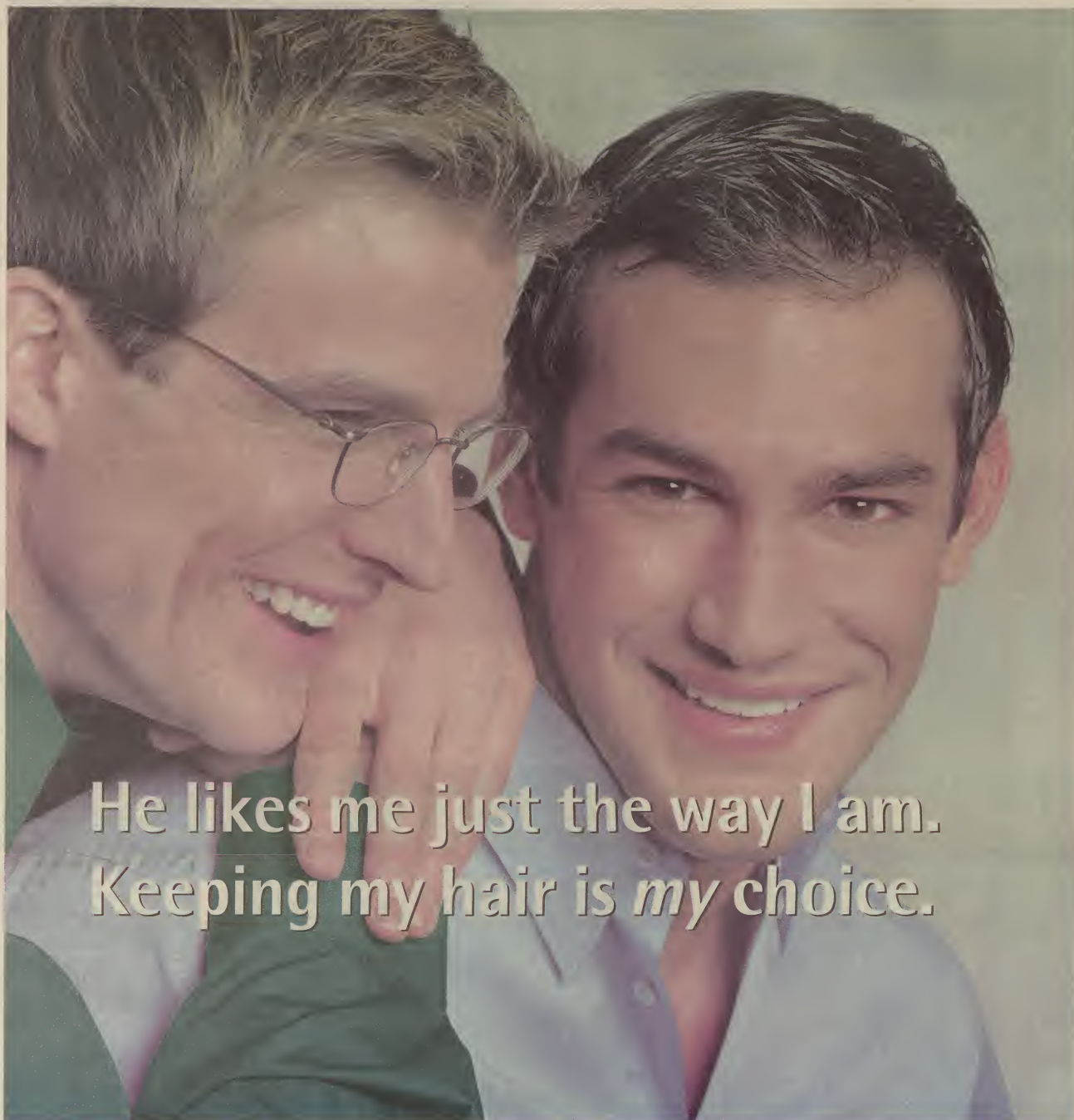
inated their roles in the Los Angeles production, is often able to make the material seem funnier than it really is. The group sings well, looks funny in drag, and has an appealing energy. As *Miss Desmond*, Gregory Messer can certainly twist his face into a Gloria Swanson scowl, but the character curiously seems to be a retiring guest as her own party.

Tommi Rose, as the prison matron, provides the polish and a stage presence that 10 years as emcee at Finocchio's helped develop. Carlos Penaranda, Shawn Ryan, Chris Sands, and Hamilton Scarborough III play Norma's fellow inmates with a commitment to the material that belies the overworked fat jokes, stale Scarlet O'Hara references, and leering reactions to the word "gay." David Bouzas plays Hedda Hopper somewhere between Carol Channing and Marilyn Monroe, and socks over the "Front Page News" finale.


The prison guards, who become chorus boys in the mock-production numbers, are John Butterfield, David Collier, Du Von Evans, and Daniel Santero. They are game, but sometimes seem a little embarrassed by circumstances in which they find themselves. ▼

Miss Desmond Behind Bars is running indefinitely at the 7th Note Showclub. Tickets are \$25-\$35. Call 433-9500.

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What is male pattern hair loss?

Male pattern hair loss is a common condition in which men experience thinning of the hair on the scalp. Often, this results in a receding hairline and/or balding on the top of the head. These changes typically begin gradually in men in their 20s. Doctors believe male pattern hair loss is due to heredity and is dependent on hormonal effects. Doctors refer to this type of hair loss as androgenetic alopecia.

Results of clinical studies:

For 12 months, doctors studied over 1800 men aged 18 to 41 with mild to moderate amounts of ongoing hair loss. All men, whether receiving PROPECIA or placebo (a pill containing no medication) were given a medicated shampoo (Neutrogena T/Gel® Shampoo). Of these men, approximately 1200 with hair loss at the top of the head were studied for an additional 12 months. In general, men who took PROPECIA maintained or increased the number of visible scalp hairs and noticed improvement in their hair in the first year, with the effect maintained in the second year. Hair counts in men who did not take PROPECIA continued to decrease.

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Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual side effects.

- PROPECIA can affect a blood test called PSA (Prostate-Specific Antigen) for the screening of prostate cancer. If you have a PSA test done, you should tell your doctor that you are taking PROPECIA.

Storage and handling.

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Do not give your PROPECIA tablets to anyone else. It has been prescribed only for you. Keep PROPECIA and all medications out of the reach of children.

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Axis Dance Co.

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for me to understand what vocabulary they were able to access. I'm trying to find the right words because I don't want to say that they're at a loss or they're disabled. They are hardly disabled; in fact, they are some of the most abled people I've ever met. Their perseverance to transcend what we think of as normal taught me a lot. These are fabulous people who can rise to the level of this very complicated choreography."

Joe Goode, long noted for his multilayered, often humorous approach, created *Jane Eyre* for Axis. "I didn't know the work of Axis before I started working with them," he said. "I'd seen a little bit on tape and thought the work was lovely, but a little romantic, a little bit purple. I wasn't sure our aesthetics were going to match up very well, because I don't fancy that is what I do, and they said, 'No, we're undergoing a change of heart, and we're looking to have our aesthetic pushed around a little bit. We want to try things that will stretch us and take us in new directions.' I said, 'Okay, if you really mean it.'"

"The minute I got to know them, I learned they have a wicked sense of humor and a self-deprecating way of talking about themselves and each other," Goode said. "They're not precious about who they are and how they live in the world. We really bonded. I said, let's make a piece that somehow addresses the issues in the disabled world that aren't talked about too often. Often someone who is disabled has to negotiate the very difficult waters of, 'Is someone going to help me? Who is that person going to be? How dependent am I going to be on that person? What is that relationship like, and what are the dynamics?' I thought it was very risky territory for them to go into."

"Somehow, I happened onto this idea of *Jane Eyre*, who talks a lot about her desire for a boundless kind of love that is all about

service, that's all about a kind of selflessness. So we starting playing with this idea and reading passages, and really nailed this whole idea of service. I think we went a million miles further than they thought they could go," said Goode. "I think the piece is funny, scary — it goes some places that are a little difficult for the viewer and certainly for the performers. I'm very happy with it, and I'm sure it will have an influence on what they will do in the future."

Goode's feelings are reflected and supported by Megan Schirle, one of Axis' disabled dancers. She recalled, "The theme in Joe's *Jane Eyre* certainly pushed our buttons, but I liked moving into it when we got to the issue of dependence or interdependence that we have within our relationships. What part feels good, what part always feels a little edgy, or anyone would wish that they didn't have to deal with that aspect of it, but it's there. It's portraying the reality, but which out of diplomacy, political correctness, disability PC, you don't necessarily talk about. What Joe is working on is a truth, and the vehicle is *Jane Eyre*. There is not enough out there on stage that takes a look at those issues and relationships."

Mixed abilities

Coming from a different angle, internationally acclaimed choreographer Bill T. Jones shared his thoughts of the making of *Fantasy in C Major*. "It has been and continues to be a constant revelation about the choreographic process and the discourse around dancers with mixed abilities in an integrated dance company. I'm still learning from this experience how politics and culture interact, how groups of people shape and define themselves. The actual making of the piece came at a time when Axis was trying to change their repertory from pieces that dealt with what it means to be disabled to pieces that were more varied in interest and execution. I decided to make a piece that was in line with my own investigations. I had this beautiful music



"We want to try things that will stretch us": Axis Dance Company

by Schubert, full of strong passion, and a very strong and demanding structure.

"Working with them was even more collaborative than how I usually work," said Jones. "Because of the contact improvisational underpinnings of their history, there was this reliance on poignant human situation. I didn't want to do synchronized wheelchairs. I

wondered if they could do purely formal work. I thought the challenge for them would be when they weren't always touching and supporting each other. Could they be a corps of dancers all standing independently in space? How do you suggest community, synchronicity, character, how do you reflect the music? How do you build architecture? I have to admit that this was

new territory for me, also. It was through the music that I had the courage to choreograph what I did. I feel honored to have been asked to do the piece. It's another opportunity for me to learn something, and that's always exciting."

Despite the huge success of Axis's latest additions to its repertory, co-director Smith reminded that in terms of the dance world, "it's not our disabilities that's the problem. It's accessibility, the same as in the real world. There are still performing venues and studios in San Francisco and Oakland which are not wheelchair accessible, and that means we cannot perform there or even take classes. And there are still some people, including dance critics, who don't consider what we do to be dance, and don't come to see us."

"The misconceptions don't end there. Other people assume that because we're disabled that we must receive a lot of funding. No, we struggle like all small dance companies, hoping that we can hang on till the next grant comes in."

Axis Dance Company presents *The Ground, the Air, and Places in Between*, Thurs.-Sat., June 22-24 at 8 p.m., at the Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. Call 441-3687. ▼

L&G Film Fest

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Manufacturing Consent). Using Achbar's videocamera, Scott and Fraser shot their own diary of this most unusual courtship. As a result, *Two Brides and a Scalpel* (directed by Achbar) has the bird's-eye candor of such cinema verité home movies as *Silverlake Life* (although with a much happier ending). *Two Brides and a Scalpel* plays with two Canadian transgender shorts at the Victoria (6/24, 6 p.m.)

A sensation in its own time, the 1980 early queer feature *Nous Etions Un Seul Homme* (*We Were One Man*) represents the best of the '70s school of almost unbearably lyrical cinema (it reminds

one of the sweet early porn of Artie Bresson, Jr.) Guy (what else?), a farmer in Nazi-occupied France in 1943, finds the love of his life in the form of an impossibly handsome and blond wounded German soldier (Rolf) lying in the woods beyond his fields. The plot is a good excuse for Guy and Rolf to shed their mutual unhappiness (Nazis and mental hospitals) for a life given over to exploring once-unobtainable fantasies. *We Were One Man* (also notable for being the film that kicked off Frameline Distribution) plays the postparade slot at the Castro (6/25 at 5 p.m.)

Finally, *Stagestruck* (Victoria, 6/24, 3 p.m.) provides a lengthy British look at a century of Anglo-American queer theatre. Originally a three-part series for

British television, *Stagestruck* charts the tortured course of events that produced today's open gay stage fare. As the program documents, the trial of Oscar Wilde led to the theatrical closet inhabited in the early part of the 20th century by the likes of Noel Coward. Terrence Rattigan and Tennessee Williams pushed the envelope, but it fell to the likes of Edward Albee, Joe Orton and others too numerous to mention to finally break down the closet door and lead to a gay theatre that knows no boundaries in taste, style or subject matter. *Stagestruck* contains numerous dramatized examples of the kinds of queer theatre it chronicles. ▼

Festival hotline: 703-8663.

THEATRE

Queer children's stories

'Shockheaded Peter' at the Geary Theatre

by Richard Dodds

A periodic presence in letters to the editor at daily newspapers is the complaint that that perfectly nice word "gay" has been kidnapped by homosexuals. And it's true that the word unavoidably rings a contemporary chime whenever it resurfaces in its traditional meaning. But "queer," an epithet now proudly worn, is still useful beyond its current appropriation. For example, *Shockheaded Peter*, a show without sexual orientation, is most definitely queer.

What other word could properly describe the current attraction at the Geary Theatre, a show in which a giant moth snatches the body of a boy who bleeds to death after his thumbs were snipped off by the dreaded scissor man? The boy's crime? He sucked his thumb even after his mother told him not to.

There are a lot of disobedient children in *Shockheaded Peter*, most of whom receive a capital punishment in this touring musical that ACT has borrowed as the final production in its subscription series. Subtitled "a junk opera," it began life in England in 1997 and has been touring the world ever since.

The show appeals to that juvenile attraction to things gross (remember "The worms crawl in, the worms crawl out") that we now, as adults, can still enjoy, if packaged with a knowing sophistication. The creators of *Shockheaded Peter* have built a kind of grown-up house of horrors that makes us laugh more than shudder at its purposefully overheated cautionary tales.

The source for this grotesquerie are the verses created by 19th-century physician Heinrich Hoffman for his 3-year-old son after finding existing children's books to be too bland. With some tweaking of the rhymes, the verses have become lyrics to songs created by an onstage band known as the Tiger Lillies, songs that frame the unpredictable, intermissionless 90-minute show.

Lead singer and accordionist Martyn Jacques employs a falsetto that can grow grating (and is sometimes hard to understand), but the real magic of the show is in its mock-Victorian staging on the shadow-box set of doors, panels and shutters.

Our way is led by a narrator with an undertaker's pallor (the

The Tiger Lillies provide the songs for *Shockheaded Peter*.

hilariously sinister Julian Beach, one of the show's creators), who scowls at the audience whenever it laughs at one of his stentorian pronouncements. ("I am the greatest actor," he intones, "that has ever existed.") The story of *Shockheaded Peter*, buried under the floorboards by his horrified parents, becomes a recurring motif weaving itself through the other stories, several of which fail to make their mark despite the invention that marks the entire production.

But when the material and the staging find that special blend, the results can be eerily enchanting. When Harriet plays with matches, her layers of red petticoats become the flames that consume her. And in the story of the thumbsucker, the boy is played by an amazingly expressive life-size puppet with oversized opposable digits. It's hard not to laugh at his horror when the scissor man goes snip-snip.

Near the end, the show breaks character. "This is meaningless to you, isn't it?" the narrator says with disgust as he peers into the audience. "You try to do something a little bit different..." The audience laughs with relief that the preceding strangeness has finally been acknowledged as just an act. But it's the one moment

when *Shockheaded Peter* steps cautiously away from its own queerness. ▼

Shockheaded Peter will run at the Geary Theatre through July 16. Tickets are \$14-\$55. Call 749-2228 or visit www.act-sfbay.org.

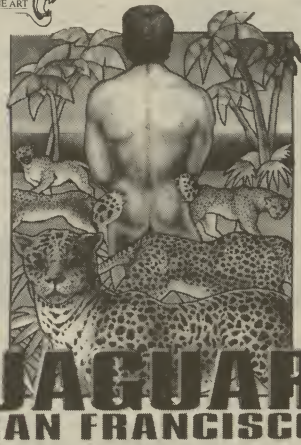
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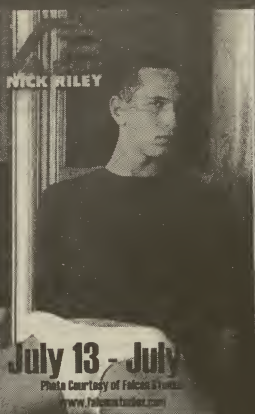
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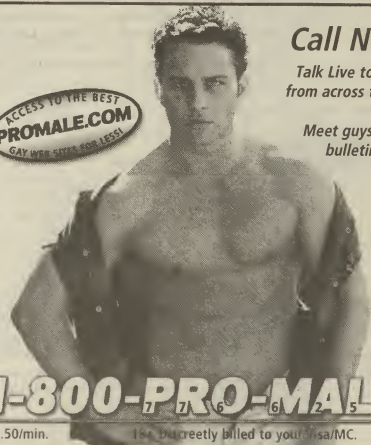
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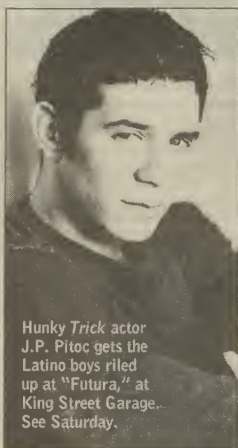
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OUT&ABOUT



Hunky Trick actor J.P. Pitoc gets the Latino boys riled up at "Futura," at King Street Garage. See Saturday.

Fri 23

SomArts

Opening reception: "Recognition," the tenth anniversary exhibition and symposium sponsored by Lesbians in the Visual Arts. This weekend of conferences and workshops approaches Recognition from a variety of perspectives — lesbian identity in art/as artists, community, diversity, and family/found family/culture. The viewpoints range from personal to political to generational. Donation 5-9pm (Conference continues 10am-4pm Sat.; \$40-\$50). 934 Brannan St. (at 8th St.). Info: 788-6118; www.lesbianarts.org

Jon Sims Center

AI/Space artist in residence Susan Maxwell works with Victoria McNichol Kelly in presenting a workshop production of "A Gravity Fable," an otherworldly dance-theatre tale set in a Kingdom where the birds are dying

mysteriously. One woman searches for a way to rescue the birds while another seeks a way to escape the fact of their dying. \$5-\$10 sliding (NO-TAFLOF). 8:30pm. 1519 Mission St. Info: www.jonsimsctr.org

Mission Cultural Center

Queer Latina/o Festival 2000 presents "The Last Kiss," directed by Luis Oropeza, a look into the mind of the poet Federico Garcia Lorca in the last hour before his assassination. \$10 (\$15 on 7/24, including reception 7-8pm). 8pm. Also: Poetry Reading with many local contributors. \$5. 7-9pm. 2868 Mission St. (at 24th St.). Info: 648-3702; www.quelaco.org. Tix: www.queer-culturalcenter.org

Cowell Theater

Nat'l. Queer Arts Fest presents Axis Dance Company in the premiere of "The Ground, the Air, and Places in Between," new repertory works by Bill T. Jones, Joe Goode, Sonya Delwaide, and Johanna Halgood. \$18 (\$15 students/seniors/disabled; \$10 under 12). 8pm. Fort Mason Center. Tix/info: 441-3687; www.ticketweb.com

Catharine Clark Gallery

Opening gala: "Out of the Closet," a benefit for the Lavender Youth Recreation & Information Center (LYRIC), featuring a couture exhibition of outfits from drag goddess Juanita More's closet (she'll be there to show them off), all created by Mr. David. Plus a photo exhibition and auction with images by Daniel Nicoletta, Kent Taylor, Farika, Norm Halm, Robert Cortez, Aaron Plant, Dan Howell, and Alan Purcell. Plus an exhibition of paintings commemorating Stonewall by Sandow Birk. 6pm. 49 Geary St., 2nd floor. \$15 artists; \$20 gen'l public. 399-1439.

Green Room

"Ninth Annual Uniform and Leather Ball," presented by the Phoenix Uniform Club. Live music by Gail Wilson and City Swing. Open bar and buffet. Benefits AIDS Emergency Fund. \$50 adv.; \$60 door. 8pm-midnight. War Memorial building, 401 Van Ness Ave. Tix at Daddy's, Leather Zone, Mr. S. Leather, Image Leather, and Worn Out West.

Sony Metreon

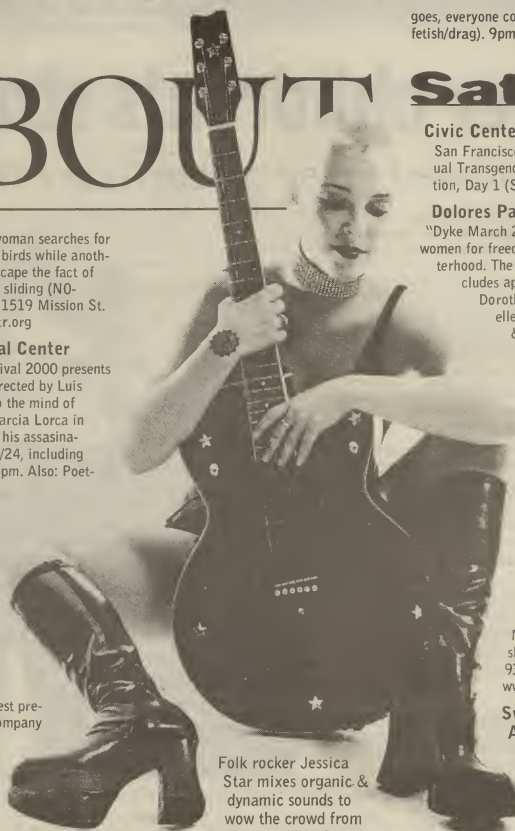
Braindrops presents "Electric Playground," a special Pride party featuring DJs Barry Weaver, Icon, Joseph Lee, Captain Neo, and Tracer. Audio by "One Ohm," with more than 30,000 watts of quadraphonic sound in a land of enchantment featuring characters from Maurice Sendak's "Where the Wild Things Are." Interactive Video Animated Tracing Laser by New A.J.E. Two 3-watt interactive lasers by Newaje. Outdoor Patio overlooking Yerba Buena Gardens. Limited to 1,500 parties. \$30. 10pm-4am. All ages. Presales at Braindrops, Skills DJ Workshop, Solid Grooves, Harmonics, In the Mix, CD Record Rack. Info: 922-7246.

Marlena's

"Marlena's Girls," a showcase of exciting female impersonators in a rollicking cabaret. Hostess: Toby, the former Empress of San Jose. With guest appearances by "En Drag" performers. No cover. 10pm. 488 Hayes St. (at Octavia). 864-6672.

Regency Building

"Miss Gay Mecca Pageant and Captain Stoli 2001." A portion of proceeds benefits Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence's Grant Fund. \$20-\$50. 7pm. Gothic Theater, Loge



Folk rocker Jessica Star mixes organic & dynamic sounds to wow the crowd from the Pride Main Stage on Saturday at 3:40 pm.

Level, Regency Bldg., 1290 Sutter St. Tix at Marlena's, Club Rendezvous, and Books Inc., Castro.

Jezebel's Joint

Absolutely Ambiguous Productions presents "The Fifth Annual Fence-sitters Ball," the only event in the city that brings together bisexuals from all over the Bay Area. Music, dancing, performance, and short bi films. \$10 (1 of 3 gets in free). 9pm-2am. 21+ w/I.D. 510 Larkin St. (at Turk). 707-2876.

Paradise Lounge

"The Glitz and the Fury," in which two bands duke it out to see who's the Queerest Band in the Land (or at least who's the loudest). In one corner is Blue Period, the glam band with an attitude; in the opposite corner is Sparrows Point, practically bursting their pants with machismo. Highlight: They'll each do one of the other band's songs! You decide who's more queer. Cover charge. 10 pm. 11th & Folsom. Info: www.blue-period.com; www.sparrowpoint.org

Club Townsend

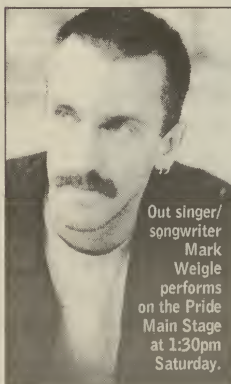
"Club Q" hosts a Pride party for lesbians and friends, hosted by DJ Page Hotel spinning house and hip-hop. \$10. 9pm-4am. 177 Townsend St.

550 Barneveld

"Metropolis," a jam-packed gay dance scene ignited by the high-end, high-tech sounds of local DJ legends Neil Lewis, Matt Consola and Derek. 10pm-6am. \$20 adv.; \$25 door. Info: 646-0890.

New Meat Campus Theatre

The Radical Faeries present "A Midsummer's Night Sleaze." Everything



Out singer/songwriter Mark Welgle performs on the Pride Main Stage at 1:30pm Saturday.

goes, everyone comes. \$10 (\$2 off for fetish/drag). 9pm. 220 Jones St.

Civic Center

San Francisco Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Pride Celebration, Day 1 (See Calendare).

Dolores Park

"Dyke March 2000." Join other women for freedom, power, and sisterhood. The rally in the park includes appearances by Dorothy Allison and Jewelle Gomez. Free. Music & comedy 4-7pm; rally 7pm; march 7:45pm. Dolores St. at 19th St. Info: 241-8882; www.fireworx.org/dykemarch.html.

SomArts

Sister Spit presents a dance party with spoken word, drag performers, and much craziness. Hosted by Sini Anderson and Michelle Tea. \$8-\$12 sliding. 10pm-3am. 934 Brannan. Info: www.klubber.org/spit

Swedish American Hall

Q-Spirit presents "Free Yourself!" A techno ritual incorporating multimedia, dancing, performances,

guided meditations, drumming, chanting and more. The goal is "to bring a sense of fun and an experience of celebration back to spirituality for everyone." Q-Spirit promotes personal and spiritual growth in the GLBT community. No drugs or alcohol. \$10 door. 1-4pm. 2174 Market St. (at 15th St., above Cafe du Nord). Info: 281-9377; www.qspirit.org

Metropolitan

Community Church

Reading and book-signing: *The Ins and Outs of Gay Sex*, featuring author Dr. Stephen Goldstone. Co-sponsored by A Different Light Bookstore and Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. Free. 7pm. 150 Eureka St. Info: ADL at 431-0891.

MACT Citihiike

Men of All Colors Together take their monthly hike in the city. Today's outing will be a "Pre-Pride Parade Promenade." Free; for the fit and fit-aspiring. Meet at Starbucks at Church & Market, rain, fog or shine. Depart for destination at 11am prompt. Club info: 675-0201. Surf: go.to/mactsfba

Galleria Design Center

Jito presents "Freedom SF" — It's about the scent of 1001 men immersed in sweat, dancing with reckless abandon to the sound of high-energy dance music by DJ Lydia Prim (New Orleans). \$40 adv.; \$50 door. 10pm-6am. 101 Henry Adams St. (near 8th and Townsend).

New Meat Campus Theatre

Terrence Alan hosts a champagne reception for gay porn producers Chris Ward and J.D. Slater of Raging Stallion Studios, who will unveil their latest hard-core film "Sexpack 2," starring Dean Coulter and Tom Vaccaro. Porn models will re-enact scenes live. \$20. 8-9pm reception; 9pm screening. 220 Jones St. 673-3384.

City Hall

Noble Beast presents "ReUnion @ City Hall," the official Pride Celebration dance, set in the grand rotunda of City Hall. Featuring pillar-shaking music by New York DJ Warren Gluck (The Saint; Sydney Mardi Gras). Lighting by Allan Parkinson (Sydney Mardi Gras; Fire Island Pines '99, HellBall '99). A benefit for Positive Resource Center. \$50 (includes after-hours party at the Manhattan Lounge, 699 Market St.). VIP tix available. 7pm-2am. Tix: EventRegistration.com. Info: 674-1214.

Phoenix Hotel/Backflip

Don Spradlin presents "Splash/SF," an outdoor pool and dance party for the hot men of Pride. Sounds by DJ Bryan Pfeifer (LA). Bring towel. Dress

Calendare by Mark Mardon

Free yourselves!

Whatever anyone might say for or against the entertainment line-up on the Main Stage this Pride Weekend — and I've been known to be critical myself when local gay artists were either underrepresented or bumped because other "big name" out-of-town artists got to go on too long — if there's any style you're particularly into, with patience, if you manage to be in the right place at the right time, you'll be able to experience that peak of musical joy you expect and deserve from a Pride Celebration. It may be a mere 10-minute peak or, depending on your taste, you could peak for hours. Clearly the more upbeat, eclectic, and generally forgiving your mood is at the fest, the more likely you'll be to burst out spontaneously: *Yes! This makes me feel Pride!*

With some 50 Main Stage performers and speakers, I can only give you some of my personal picks, beginning with the daring, hugely talented local hip-hop group **Rainbow Flava**, who will rap their queer hearts out at 4pm; singer/songwriter **Mark Weigle** brings his down-home, queer folkiness to the stage at 1:30pm Sat. To show your solidarity with the queer community as everyone battles against the forces of intolerance, be sure to show up at the Main Stage by noon on Sat., when **CUAV** will present "Stand Against Hate," with co-emcees **Connie Champagne** and **Elena**, followed at 1pm by "Domestic Partners Commitment Ceremony" conducted by Mayor **Willie Brown** and Assembly Member **Carole Migden**.

With luck on Sat. at 3:40pm, Sonoma County singer/songwriter **Jessica Star** will wear her sexy leather boots and outfit, and hold that big, black-bodied guitar of hers between her legs like she does in her promo photo. I can't say I've heard her music, but I like her cool biker-chick look.

Rumors abound about the impending break-up of local queer rock/pop band **Brown-Star**, and vocalist **Moon Trent** is said to be putting out feelers for another singing gig, but that doesn't prevent him from believing the band's moment on stage — as the closing act on Sat., 5:35pm — will be its finest.

The audience will be at its thickest on Sunday, but at noon, the Main Stage won't yet be overwhelmed, so you'll be well positioned to enjoy the patriotic fervor stirred up in grand style by **The SF Lesbian & Gay Freedom Band**, followed by **The SF Gay Men's Chorus** and **The Lesbian & Gay Chorus of SF**.

You'll get similar shivers of patriotism combined with rhythmic and circus-like thrills beginning at 1:55pm Sun., when the dancers and rhythmmeisters of the hit stage show "**Stomp**" prime the audience for the appearance of that oh-so-fashionable diva Mayor **Willie Brown**, followed by the tight-bodied, dare-devil acrobats of **Cheer SF**, who'll make you want to do hand stands.

From that point on, the line-up gets fairly impressive, with soulful cabaret diva **Martha Wash** on stage at 2:50pm, followed by former Bronski Beat vocalist **Jimmy Somerville**, Broadway and Gospel singer **Jennifer Holliday**, those ever-popular rabble-rousers, **The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence** at 4:10pm, and the never-maligned **Cockatella** at 5:15pm.

Don't miss the faeries!

This year, for the first time ever, the **Radical Faeries** have been invited to set up "Faerie Village 2000" as part of the Pride Celebration, located behind the fountain at UN Plaza. This "temporary autonomous commercial free queer safe zone" will feature body painting, communal meals, tarot readings, a chillout area, and a host of performers, including Eighth Note Records recording artists **Jallen Rix** and **Garrin Benfield**, a "no talent" show, yogic dance/movement by the **Yogasexual Evolutionary Liberation Party**, a drag race, ritual drumming, and some of the hottest trance and the coolest ambient sounds you'll hear this year, spun by DJs **Jamez Smith**, **Timothy B. Logos** and yours truly. ▼

code: swimwear. \$15. Noon-6pm. 601 Eddy St. 674-1214.

King Street Garage

"Futura" presents *Orgullo Gay Latino 2000* ("Latino Gay Pride 2000"), with a personal appearance on stage by J.P. Pitoc, the deliciously photographable actor who played the sexy go-go dancer in the New Line Cinema feature "Trick." Hostess Arianna presents her famous "Travesty Show." DJ Eduardo spins out the Latin beats. 10pm-3am. 21+ w/D. 174 King St. (at 3rd St.). 665-6715; www.futurasf.com

SFMOMA

"Rebellion Ball," a wild ride through a fantastic array of performance art, activities, music, dancing and a private viewing of the exhibitions "Magritte," with over 60 works by the Belgian surrealist painter, and "Cre-master 2: The Drones' Exposition," a new installation by Matthew Barney. Entertainment, mischief and mayhem by a fabulous array of artists/ musicians/DJs/etc. Dress code: surreal. \$65 adv. (\$100 VIP). \$100 & \$150 at door. 9pm-1am. 151 Third St. Tix: (510) 601-TWEB; www.ticketweb.com. Info: www.rebellionball.com

Club Townsend

"Universe," always packed with hunks and pretty boys, mostly shirtless. The place to show off your designer dance wear. DJ David Harness rules, with special guest DJs giving the house their unique spin. \$12. 9:30pm-7am. 177 Townsend. 289-6650.

Club Fab, Guerneville

"Sexy Saturday Beach Party," a place to show off your sexiest swimwear while shakin' your booty. DJ Dave Matthias gets you in the mood to surf the big wave or snuggle with your honey in the sand. Four floors to dance on. Go gos to go ga ga over. Half price entry for those with swimwear. 9pm-4am. 16135 Main St., Guerneville. (707) 869-5708.

Sun 25

Civic Center

San Francisco Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Pride Celebration, Day 2. The gigantic parade starts at Market and Beale at 10:30am, proceeding west on Market to 8th St., one of the entrances to the Celebration Site. Info: www.sfpride.org

ODC Theater

Youth Speaks, LYRIC and ODC present "Queeriosity Killed the Cat," a queer-friendly, post-parade performance/event for young people, featuring Kassy Kayiatos, Tiger Walsh, and Mario Balcita (all prior Youth Speaks Teen Poetry Slam Champions) and others. Celebrate young people who are out. Audiences of all ages & sexual orientations invited. \$10 gen'l.; \$5 under 20. 8pm. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). Info: 863-9834; www.odcdance.org/theater

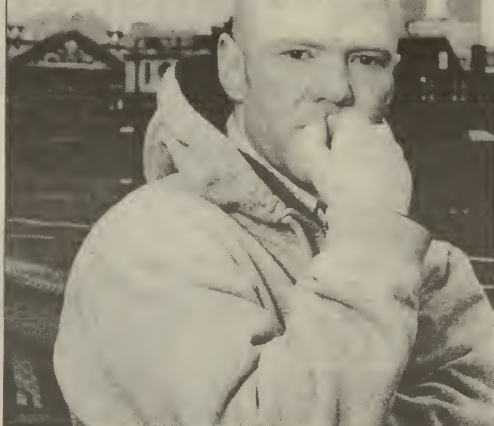
Dominican College, San Rafael

The San Francisco Early Music Society presents a Baroque concert with works by Bach, Telemann, Buxtehude, Biber and Schaffrath. \$10 & \$15 at door. Meadowlands Assembly Hall, Dominican College, San Rafael. Info: (510) 549-9799.

Great American Music Hall

Musicians for Medical Marijuana present "The Cannabis Healers," featuring members of The Grateful Dead, Canned Heat, Zero, Legion of

Former Bronski Beat singer Jimmy Somerville appears on the Pride Main Stage at 3:10pm Sunday.



Mary, Dave Nelson Band, and special guests. \$25. 6:30pm. 859 O'Farrell St. 885-0750.

Manhattan Lounge

"Club Skirts Women's Party," the official Pride 2000 women's dance party. Deejays will spin out funk, groove, hip-hop, house and whatever gets the juices flowing. \$10 (\$8 b4 9pm). 6pm-2am. 699 Market St. Info: 1-888-5-SKIRTS.

King Street Garage

"Sundance Saloon Country Pride Party," featuring guest DJ Mike Castanillos (Kicker's, San Diego). Two-steppin', line dancing, and hot cowboys and cow-dykes. Yee-ha! \$5. Country-western dance lessons 6-7:30pm; open country-western dancing 7:30-11pm. 174 King St. (at 3rd St.). Tel: 699-5764; surf: sundance.freehosting.net

City Nights

"Time 4 Pride," featuring DJ Buc (Atlanta). \$20 adv.; \$25 door. 7pm-2am. 715 Harrison St. (at 3rd St.). 552-5900.

1015 Folsom

"Mass," the massive T-dance ritual after the parade and festival. DJ Phil B. mixes it up with trance, house sounds. High-tech interior, with lasers and colored flashing lights galore. In the heart of the SoMa nightclub district fighting to preserve clubbing from the incursions of loft dwellers. \$20 adv.; \$30 door. 6pm-midnight. 646-0890.

Mon 26

Piaf's

QComedy.com openly presents "Gay Comedy Showcase," hosted by Scott Silvermann, with

Jim Short, Mike Miller, Karen Ripley, Amma, Marti MacGibbon, Maureen Brownsey, Bridget Schwartz and Andrew Norelli. \$5. 8pm. 1686 Market St. (at

Gough). 541-5610.

Tue 27

Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy

Nat'l. Queer Arts Fest screens "The Einstein of Sex: Life and Work of Doctor Magnus Hirschfeld" (1999) by gay filmmaker Rosa von Praunheim, who escaped to the West from Latvia at the age of 10, in 1942. The film focuses on sexologist Hirschfeld, who founded the first political gay group in Berlin and whose life's work was destroyed by the Nazis. \$7. 6:30 & 8:30pm. 4235 19th St. (at Collingwood). Info: 552-7709; www.queer-culturalcenter.org

A Different Light

Reading and book-signing: *Death of the Good Doctor*, with author Kate Scannell. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

Wed 28

Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy

Pioneer lesbian artist and activist Harmony Hammond presents her work from *Lesbian Art in America: A Contemporary History* (Rizzoli). She offers an in-depth survey of lesbian artists since 1970. \$15. 7:30pm. 4235 19th St. Info: 552-7709; www.queer-culturalcenter.org

Thu 29

Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy

Nat'l. Queer Arts Fest presents Matmos, one of the country's most innovative, experimental electronic music groups, the creators of mind-warping ambient/trance sounds. Their latest CD is *The West*. Currently the band is cooperating with Björk on an album based on the sounds of medical technology. \$10. 8:30pm.

City Nights

"Faith," an 18+ gay nightclub featuring resident DJs Blackstone and Ruben Mancias, plus guest DJ Carlos. In the front room: R&B and hip hop sounds with DJs Jay-R and Larry. \$10. 9:30pm-2am. 18+ w/D. 715 Harrison St. (at 3rd St.). 487-6616.

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Chicken Cordon Bleu stuffed with honey-baked ham & fontina cheese served with vegetable, chef's rice or mashed potatoes\$10.25

Grilled Pork Chops stuffed with apple-raisin dressing, mashed potatoes & gravy\$11.75

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Glamers Blue Period face off with slammers Sparrows Point at the Paradise Lounge. See Friday.

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Our man in leather

Down and out in Atlanta

by Mister Marcus

Things didn't quite go as I anticipated this past weekend in Atlanta, where I traveled to take part as a presenter at Southeast Leatherfest, and to attend the International Slave and Master competition, the Southeast Drummer and Drummer Boy contests, and the Ms. Leather Pride competition. In fact, immediately after my workshop on Saturday morning, where Frank Puckett (the patriarch of leather in the Deep South) and I discussed the leather lifestyle of the '40s, '50s and '60s, I noticed I was short of breath. Before I knew it, I was flat on my back in the VA Hospital in Atlanta.

After intense tests, I was told that if I flew out of Atlanta to San Francisco the next morning, almost certainly I would not live to see my landing at SFO. I was detained in the hospital overnight, thus missing the contests I was there to cover.

My thanks to the wonderful staff of the Atlanta Veteran's Hospital, my nurses Cindy, Lila, and Leticia, and to Dr. Christopher Simon for their dedication in insuring my survival. Thanks, too, to the leather community for looking after me. With Tom Stice, Mark Frazier, Viola Johnson, Jill Carter and my daughter Queen Cougar on the sidelines offering love, caring and support, my faith in the leather community was reaffirmed. Not that I ever doubted anyone's allegiance to the codes and ethics of the Leather Tribe — I always knew it was filled with compassion. I just never imagined being the beneficiary of this love, devotion and inspiration.

Faced with the stern glare of Jill Carter, death made yet another hasty retreat. In fact, just about everyone attending Southeast Leather Fest sent a wave of love and prayers my way, which apparently also reached the higher powers that be. My leather brothers and sisters everywhere sent emails of concern



Flashback to 1991: Some of San Francisco's leather title-holders joined other Pride-goers in watching the parade pass them by.

all weekend.

After 8 hours in emergency and another 8 hours bombarded with medicines, needles, tubes, potions, pills, etc., I awoke on Sunday morning like a reborn babe. I could breathe without effort and the world seemed new and eager to be explored.

Yes, it was a harrowing ordeal. But no, contrary to exaggerated reports flying all over the Internet, claiming I had collapsed with a heart attack in front of 600 pairs of leather eyes, no such thing happened. Whoever wrote that message should be writing fiction. Happily I am able to rejoin the world's greatest community, and even bring you some second-hand

reports of what happened at the various contests.

The winners of International Master & slave 2000 were Steve Samson and slave "kirk" of Indio, California.

The new Ms. Leather Pride 2000 is a charming lady, the vivacious Samantha Claar of Atlanta.

Representing the Southeast Drummer region in September will be Southeast Drummer Larry Cottrill of Stockbridge, Georgia. The Drummer boy for the region is Bruce Tidwell of Lawrenceville, Georgia. This development will prove to be most interesting at Drummer 2000.

With all that drama and trauma, the "Events in Leather & Kink" portion of my column is unfortunately missing this week because I am writing this in Atlanta and am unable to access my data base. But I do recommend you make plans for Friday night to attend the Phoenix Uniform Club's annual Leather/Uniform Ball in the Green Room of the War Memorial Building at Van Ness Ave. and McAllister. Tickets are \$50 in advance, available at several outfits in San Francisco and at Leather Masters in San Jose, or you can get them for \$60 at the door. The price includes gourmet buffet, a hosted bar, and the dynamic sounds of City Swing featuring Gail Wilson.

On Saturday morning, Donna Sachet's Pride Brunch at Stars restaurant is always a blast.

Watch for the Leather Pride Contingent in the Pride Parade on Sunday; and especially check out the 2001 Bare Chest Calendar float. You'll also want to visit the leather zone in the Civic Center celebration area, where Donna Sachet and many other talents will entertain you.

That's all for now, folks. Thanks you for your emails and cards of caring. I'll see you all next week. Meanwhile, keep living, keep loving and keep laughing, just do it in leather — especially this weekend! ▼

THE GLITZ AND THE FURY

SPARROWS POINT

blue period

FRIDAY
JUNE 23
PARADISE
LOUNGE
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Big bang theory

by John F. Karr

At least four careers and one testicle ago, J.D. Slater was a pretty boy among the demimonde. After college, in the mid-'70s, while he was the technical director for a prominent Manhattan theatre group, Slater became a celeb of the midtown club scene. He modeled mink coats for a New York furrier; became the editor of *Blueboy*, a vastly popular magazine of the day; ran a promotional company that produced parties and special events; and, under the auspices of director/auteur Chris Rage, became a much in-demand, much-filmed porn star. When AIDS was ravishing the New York scene in the '80s, he moved here, made some dark, particularly nasty videos, and survived not only obscenity charges when the films were imported into England, but a life-threatening illness.

Chris Ward has also known several wildly disparate careers, although his testicles remain intact. He did what he calls his "Indiana Jones thing" for a few years on an archeological dig in Panama after completing a doctorate in History and Archeology at the University of Florida. Moving here with his boyfriend, he did postdoctoral work at Berkeley, and paid the bills by working up to a high-level position in a stock-trading

firm on the Pacific Stock Exchange. By night, he whirled through the city's leather clubs, where his fists knew many an ass, and his expertise was acclaimed. Recruited by Hot House to perform in a video, Ward suddenly found himself not only starring in, but directing and editing a groundbreaking string of fisting videos for the company.

The two men met when Ward made a fan's phone call to Slater. Mutual admiration soon turned to a collaboration that melds a nearly royal lineage — Arch Brown to Chris Rage to Slater — with its contemporary descendant, Slater: East Coast, old school cinema verité sleazemeister, and Ward: West Coast, new school excess with finesse. Together they're Raging Stallion Studios, the newest porn firm in town, and the hottest. Their product not only has edge, but buzz, judging from the reaction of the leather community at the recent IML in Chicago. Why? There are other fetish videos being made, but none like Raging Stallion's. Together, Ward and Slater have the balls to produce films that aren't only edgy, but (gasp) artistic.



J.D. Slater (left) and Chris Ward (second from right) on the set; the talent taking direction from them includes Blake Harper (far right).

the directors then stage and film with careful and discretely applied craft. Lighting tends away from unflattering brightness to realistic levels that are moody and warm, psychologically supportive. Editing follows suit, allowing advances of action not by panning away from the performers to potted plants or the clock on the wall, but through the use of dissolves and wipes, which keep the viewer's connection with the sex

unbroken. So the scenes are closer to real time, and closer to real life — if your life happens to find you *Bound, Beaten and Banged* in *The Punishment Chamber*, two titles of Raging Stallion's premiere release.

If these titles scare you, make you think the only return to normality is Judy's Carnegie Hall concert (it's been re-released, on gold discs, the whole thing, with in-between-the-songs chat and all!), stick around for the classically styled loops of Raging Stallion's *Sex Pack One: Four Tight Tales*, which stars the expected Raging Stallion brand of hypermasculine guys and intense sexuality, but minus the kink. In other words, vanilla as experienced by the likes of Dean Coulter and Blake Harper.

Whip it good

The Punishment Chamber is a solid hour of strong leatherplay. The title promises kink, and the video delivers flogging, a harsh whipping, and some effective cock-and-ball torture. At one point, Ward (as persuasive in front of the camera as behind it) uses a buddy's balls as a punching bag. In another juicy sequence, a massive cast iron cauldron is suspended from Ward's bound cock and balls, with the force it exerts on the obviously pained Ward increasing as the other men fill it with their piss.

But the movie spends the greater part of its time detailing the forceful fucking and sucking of a sextet of handsome leathermen, including Harly Mancuso, Mitchell James and Eli Horst. One new face is Simon Cox, an African-American who's a magnificent creature with an animalistic intensity, his savage beauty underscored by tribal-style piercings in his nose and elsewhere. Another welcome newcomer is Logan Grey, a 50-something fox with Clark Gable allure — sort of Richard Locke 10 years on. Grey

shows that neither looks nor virility are confined to youngsters, and I was glad to see him. And even more glad to spend time with the somewhat crazed, ever-hard, and extremely vocal Horst, who cums in a big way, with an agonized dance and an aching cry.

In *The Punishment Chamber*, as in all their videos, Ward and Slater promulgate an intriguing interplay between their performers, who meet not strictly as top and bottom, but as equals. Submissiveness and domination flow back and forth like a current, heightening the video's already strong sexuality. And the guys don't have to hyperventilate to impress us; no cigar-smoking here as a signal of butch. It's their strong and masculine play, severe yet passionate, that impresses. Add the team's spartan playroom setting, straight-on camerawork, and sensible editing, plus Slater's emphatic music, and you have a quality product.

Bound, Beaten and Banged, say its creators, "is edgy, but legal." They carefully researched the constantly fluctuating legality of depicting episodes of consensual bondage. The video's hour, divided in three segments, stars impressive newcomer Bryce Pierce. He met Ward online, through a common interest: he's a grad student in archaeology. It's fortunate that they got around to digging up their sexual history, for Pierce makes a strong impression. He has a beautiful body, which Ward and Slater take pains to display both front and back, stretched taut in various forms of suspension. Unique tattoos, classic musculature, and a ferocious set of five ladder piercings along his frenum make the man a visual feast.

He's especially gorgeous in the opening mummification scene, wrapped in Saran and hanging (at his request) upside down from a joist. The underplayed lighting gives the living mummy a golden glow. As rare in video as this scene's wrapped suspension is some rare knifeplay (scraped along Pierce's penile piercings), and edgy verbal threats. The other men — tops Joe Stack and Boyd Thomas, and slaves Frank Parker and Michael Corey — are thoroughly aroused by Pierce's helpless state, getting really hard and heated up. They worship his boots, fuck the crevice between them, sit on his face, and abuse his cock.

In *Beaten*, Pierce and Parker are verbally abused and flogged while tied to the wall, arms stretched overhead; and in *Banged*, the tops dispel all their

next page ►

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PARTING GLANCES

Santiago 5-3
18th Street laundry at Noe. You: cute GAM, wearing Hawaii t-shirt. Me: behind you in line, sunglasses & green shirt, wish I said hello. Talk? Sometime? ☎ 71954

Hip Boots Blow Buddies Sun 5/7
You: leather "dad" with beard and tall boots, me: s/p hair, mustache, eager cocksucker. We met outside, I took a smoke break. Need a suck slave? ☎ 71955

Last Car On Bar-Wed Rush Hour
Me: sitting reading BAR; you standing near by. Exchanged sexy glances. Lost you at 12th Str. When I met a friend-Bummer! Would love to say hello. ☎ 71956

Tony/Troy??? We Shared 1 Kiss....
We shared 1 kiss together Pleasure-dome/Memorial Day. Wanted to talk but was attentive/loyal to semi incoherent friend. Would like to be loyal to you! I'm extremely charmed by you both times we've met! (End-up months ago) Interested in dinner/conversation? Guy. Call Me. ☎ 71993

F Line Castro & 17th
You: Tall, lean, short hair, handsome. Me: older, not best shape, grey hair, green polo bag. May I send you flowers? ☎ 71973

Pleasuredome 5/14 Duncan
I'm glad you said hello, and I love watching you again. Would you whisper in my ear again. Jon ☎ 71952

Nathan Hines.....
You moved. I lost contact. I want you in my life once again. Please call!!!! ☎ 71995

Monday 5/22 Kabuki Springs
Me: Blond, smooth, 30's. You: (Jeff?) Dark, hairy, very sexy. Much eye contact; I was reading in lounge, you said hi; then I had to leave @ 7pm. Let's talk. ☎ 71994

Bald Guy In A McDonald's On 5/11.
I am looking (?) Asian man that wishes that I would have had the balls to say something to you. Call me please. ☎ 71953

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Goodlooking Latino 29
I'm 5'6", 165lbs., stocky, muscular, dark features. Seeking Latinos or Whites under 40 for friendship for building a monogamous LTR. N/s only. ☎ 71975

Seeking Brainy Guy
GWM, 54, 5'8", 185,brn/blue, HIV-, wishes to meet a man of ideas, intellect and curiosity—a bright fellow interested in conversation, discourse and the pursuit of happiness and fulfillment. ☎ 71957

GWM Seeks Sweetheart
ISO a warm, caring & considerate, GWM or GWM, 36-46, HIV-, who enjoys the outdoors, movies, dining out, kissing & cuddling. Me: GWM, a young 42, HIV-, 5'9", 175lbs. brn/blue. ☎ 71958

Good Looking Straight Type
Genuine, fun loving, non-scene GWM 42, 6'1", 195lbs. not into gay life. Seeks romance and love with similar good looking, masculine, relationship-oriented, non-scene nice guy with personality. S 72012

HIV+ Blks 5'9" 165#Healthy Active
Mostly top, seeking 1on1 interaction with lean or slim build mostly bottom. Attracted to guys with good body proportion. Prefer guys in my size range. ☎ 71959

Headmaster Bro Sgt Coach Sought
By procrastinating, once successful, boyish, HWP, 40s, GWM for routine accountability. Selfdiscipline is fulfilling commitments on schedule or grabbing ankles for paddle safe, sane, possible live in. ☎ 72001

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino 34y/o black hair, goatee, brown eyes. Professional looking for GWM between 27-40y/o for friendship. Me like go out dinner, biking, travel, hiking, just call. ☎ 71960

Let's Date
GWM, 42, 200lbs. s&p hair, HIV-, seeks 35-45y.o. Top. I am financially secure prof who likes fun times and engaging conversation. HIV-only pls. Just a call away. ☎ 71961

Coffee Seeking Cream
42year old, 5'10", smooth, fun, romantic into outdoor adventure and indoor intimacy. Seeks LTR with GM into passion, fun and conversation. ☎ 71977

ISO GAM 20-45 for LTR
Very attractive GWM 57, 6', 175, gym-toned body. High-energy guy wants to share life, love and interests in food, wine, travel, foreign languages, nature and the arts. ☎ 71997

R U Romantic Caring GWM 28-38?
Attractive GAM 5'11", 175lbs professionally employed, well-adjusted individual into movies, hiking, cooking, quiet time ISO similar. Friends, secure part and possibly more. Chat over coffee? ☎ 71978

Mixed Latin ISO Friends / Fun
Seeking on-going great times with another Latin. I'm 34, dark featured. 5'6", 155, versatile. Movies, rollerblading, dinner, clubbing & you know; as we get to know. ☎ 71996

Best Buds
Masculine, muscular Italian toman seeks another masculine toman to "Hang", stroke, travel & vacation with. Good friends only. Age, race not important. ☎ 71998

Seeking Slim Smooth HIV+ Guy
Attractive hung 41yo GWM seeks slim 28-38yo bottom or versatile guy of any race for fun hot sex and possible LTR. Prefer smooth to lightly hairy. HIV+ only please. ☎ 72000

Hot Frenchman!
French guy desired for love and adventure by hung romantic blue eyed European in late 30's. Let's meet in San Francisco or Europe... ☎ 72002

Rancher Seeks Cowboy
GWM 50, 5'10, 180#, black hair, short trimmed beard, brown eyes. Outdoors person. Non smoker, drinker. HIV- seeks down to earth GWM preferably younger for long term monogamous relationship. ☎ 71999

Libertarian
Masculine. In great shape, 40, 175#, 6'11yo, brn/bln. HIV positive, completely healthy. My dogs, my ranch, working out. Some travel, some movies, some town, some country. Someone. Simple, easy, fun. ☎ 71974

GAM 48 Seeks GWM 70 Or Over
For ltr. Prefer non-smoker, clean shaven & mid-west background. ☎ 71976

GBM, 32, 6'2", 170, Smith Ln Bld
Cln, cut, hg 8", drug & std free, ISO slim White males 18 to 26 on for poss. LTR. ☎ 71979

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Fact Of Gay (As In My) Life:
More gay guys wanna suck tool than ever want their tools sucked. That's why I luv suckin str8 guys off. They appreciate it (and shoot) more. Can't get enuf. Try me! ☎ 71986

Submissive Black Bottom
In good shape, athletic body. Hot mouth, deep throat seeks top, verbal & raunch, kink, sleaze & wk ends & eve. ☎ 71962

Gang Bang Daddy!
For his 60th birthday, daddy wants to be gang banged by four to six small, smooth, young pretty boys with average endowments. As a group or individuals. Bi-racial a +. ☎ 72006

Young Slave For Training
Very cute 26yo. submissive European boy wants to be trained by a cute but demanding master(s) under 36. Total obedience is guaranteed. ☎ 71963

I Want To Suck You Off, Slowly
1 or 2 at a time, in-shape. Straight acting, not nelly, Mexican & Cowboys A+. I'm 35, masculine but submissive & ready to service you. Sir! ☎ 71964

Non Hairy Bear Top
56 GWM HIV- 6'5", 265 wants shorter HIV- hairy bear bottom with hot hole, playful tits, aroma/smoke are fine. ☎ 71966

Bodybuilder Phone 50
Bodyworship, muscle sex, role play, orders, flexing, posing, weightlifting in jockstrap. Call with your fantasy. 5'9", 195lb, 45°C, 16a. ☎ 71967

RU Short But Dominant?
Very submissive for smaller, dominant guys. Me, 5'10", 140lbs, slim, gym, 48yo. Expert full-body service including massage. Can take some pain. Race not a factor. ☎ 71980

Asian And Filipino Bottoms Yea
Affectionate, masculine, always horny top with big tool wants to make love to your ass. Italian, 38, 165#, HIV-. Call if you want to be my bottom. ☎ 71981

Straight? You Can't Help It!....
But you sure can help the lousy head you're getting from uneager/unintended females by switching to male me! I'll suck you off both eagerly and right, tonight! ☎ 71985

Spanking Guys
Need your butt warmed up good? 47, fit, handsome, 5'8", 150, 25 years of discipline games. Seeking lean guy, 20's/30's for bareassed spanking. Need it? then drop trou & call! ☎ 71988

My Face Needs Hots Cum Bath
If you're over 65 with large load this masculine WM 57 would like to stroke your cock see feel your hot cum splatter all over my face! S 72003

I Fuck Your Face
You 30x-40s stud, like to service older guy 7 1/2" uncut eager cock. I reciprocate, hungry for thick cut ones. ☎ 72005

Bad Boys Need Real Butt
Spankings with hand, paddle and strap. OTK over chair, then spread eagle on the bed. Str8, curious, cool. Private location. Fantasies? I'm 36, 6'2", 190#, HIV-. Limits respected and expanded. ☎ 72007

Seeking Black Jackoff Partner
33yo blonde hair, blonde eyed man seeks jo adventure. Want discreet, handsome, masculine Black male. Uncut and hung a plus. Call for more details. ☎ 71983

Mature Masculine Submissive
Seeks dominant for bdsm erotic play. SW. 53 is intelligent experienced imaginative. Prefer same. ☎ 71982

Balding And Near 50
But hung and horny Black man seeks a mature, masculine oral expert to suck my stick. Oakland area. No voicemail, answering machine, pager or work phone #'s. Sincere only. Thanks. ☎ 71965

Santa Rosa Head
W/M, 44, 6'265 will service W/M's no recip. Great Rincon Valley location for a nooner. ☎ 71987

Dad ISO Submissive Son
Goodlooking top, GWM, Italian/German, 5'8", 150lbs, 53, HIV+, ISO younger, submissive bottom for mutual satisfaction. Latino, Black or Asian a + but not necessary. ☎ 72008

Hairy Ass Middle Eastern
Gd looking 5'7", green eyes, big nipples, (1in) body bldr, is looking for a top fister with a sling to train & stretch. ☎ 72004

Chubby, Fat, Stocky, Heavy-set
GBM, 46yo, 5'11", 250lbs, seeks chubby & fat men for uninhibited safe sex. Discretion a must. Big tits, thighs, legs & butt a +. ☎ 72009

FETISHES

Daytime Asshole-Eater!!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro!! ☎ 71968

Extreme Raunch Action..
W/M, looking for other raunch hounds into derelicts, winos & homeless guys, for heavy raunch action. ☎ 71969

Seek Red/Brown Flag Lt Sm Top
By mature GWM for training, limit expanding, service, bondage, restraint, prefer more hairy, single, serious/intense man. Leather, old Soma A+ +. ☎ 71970

Just Sex But Passionate
Boy 35, 5'11", 190 brn eyes & hair (HIVpos). You be 40-55 bald. Hairy chest & a + must love to kiss & touch a lot of four/play for weekend get-togethers. ☎ 71992

ISO Ticklish Slender Asian Men
Do you love to be tied, tickled and teased? It can be slow and sensual or wild and playful. My fingers, feathers, brushes and tongue are ready! ☎ 71993

Sensual Spit Scenes
WM, 44, 6', 160lbs, dark br eyes, med hry, ISO others to slowly drive all over my face & mouth. Hussy/chubby, hairy, older groups a +, but all welcome. No SM, pain, VA, drugs. ☎ 72010

I Need Your Dark Socked Feet
GWM, 35, handsome will appreciate your warm, moist socked feet after a hard day's work. Manual/oral massages feels great while you lay back. Relax, melt, release. Businessmen, waiters, uniform a +. ☎ 72011

COUPLES

When One Is Not Enough!
ISO masculine versatile daddy type to assist dad work his boys holes frt & rear and to satisfy our needs. Double anal penetration possible, aroma and herb ok 40+. ☎ 71971

East Bay Couple 34, & 37
Seek third or couple for erotic fun (maybe more). We are safe, sane, HIV-, physically active, versatile, vanilla to kink. You should be too. Willingness to explore, blond + +. ☎ 71989

OTHERS

San Francisco Muscle Sex Party
Are you defined, buff, muscle jock who enjoys having sex in a comfortable environment with other hot muscle studs? If this ad peeks your curiosity, then give us a call. You want be disappointed. ☎ 71972

Senior Sex....
We are two erotic trim firm-bodied hard cocked males. We do man-to-man naked sex with few limits. Discreet, gentlemen. ☎ 71990

The Sexiest Guy In Town
Even the sexiest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Be safe! ☎ SAFE

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ARTS

Out There

◀ page 75

out of the womb singing "Glad To Be Gay"; dropped by roughly 1,600 soirées connected to the SF Internat'l Lesbian & Gay Cocktail Party Festival; and that doesn't even count films, the symphony, the opera, or the time we put in practicing our homosexuality! We promise to get at least that right one of these days.

Queer and abroad

Meanwhile, San Francisco

Edmund White

◀ Arts cover

little patience for the "Everything happens for a reason" believers, who theorize that the world has been dealt the fate of AIDS as some sort of opportunity for personal growth and enlightenment.

"People think that it's somehow opening you up spiritually to go through a lot of suffering, and it's supposed to be maturing, but I think all of that is bullshit," he says. "I think the truth is that it's a raw deal if you get AIDS, and especially if you get it young. No-body wants to die young. But it's also important to note when my book is taking place—in the early '90s, which was a period when people were still in a lot of despair about treatment. The triple therapy hadn't come on the scene yet."

Bi the way

While *The Married Man* is less autobiographical than much of his previous fiction, the book's central relationship is based on White's affair with a young French architect named Hubert Sorin, who died of AIDS in 1994. The Sorin character, Julien, is bisexual and, as the title suggests, married. Co-author of *The Joy of Gay Sex* (with Dr. Charles Silverstein), White says he thinks it unfair the way bisexuality is often dismissed in America as a cop-out or as "just a phase."

"I was engaged twice, and I've had lots of affairs with women, but it was before gay liberation," says White. "I'm like 99 percent gay and maybe one percent straight, but I think Kinsey was right—that people are on a sliding scale. I've met bisexuals who say they're gay and then sneak around and have their affairs with members of the opposite sex on the sly because gays are so disappearing of that."

The concept of bisexuality is much more embraced in France, where White lived for 16 years before moving back to the States in 1998. Having only visited there as a tourist and not speaking the native tongue, White decided to move to Paris at the age of 42. After attending language school and becoming involved with a lover who didn't speak English, White eventually became so fluent in French that he now writes articles for French magazines and

queer life and sexuality is being celebrated in Europe through the end of the month in exhibitions by local photographer Greg Day. In Amsterdam, Mr. B., Warmerstraat 89, is hosting *Metamorphose*, photographs of San Francisco gay fetish sexuality. In Berlin, *The Body Temple*, Nollendorf Str. 25, is presenting photographs of Folsom Fair '99.

Day's muse and sex-star model Cole Tucker has recently become a full-fledged California resident. Day made his own sex world premiere in the Film Fest, in German director Jochen Hick's *No One*

helps with the French translations of his books.

The March issue of *Talk* magazine featured White's profile on Catherine Deneuve, for which he spoke to the actress on tape in French, then translated the interview into English.

White, who as a biographer has also written books on French novelists Jean Genet and Marcel Proust, has become very well-known in France. Last year, he was made an Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres by the French government.

"There's no ceremony or anything," he says modestly. "I was first made a Chevalier in '93, which is like being knighted in England, then I got upgraded to Officer."

White returned to the US two years ago to teach creative writing at Princeton University, where he is in the exalted company of fellow professors Toni Morrison and Joyce Carol Oates.

Raised in places like Cincinnati, Dallas, and Evanston, Illinois, White was 14 and attending a boarding school in Michigan when he wrote his first novel. Entitled *The Tower Window*, it was never published.

"It was a gay novel, and no-body was writing gay novels back then," he says. "It's a subject matter I was always interested in, even when I was a kid, because I think it's been underexplored."

Although he continued writing and got a degree at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, White was 33 by the time he finally got published.

Thirteen or so books later (he says he's lost count), White now shares his literary wisdom in the classroom. Two days a week during the fall and spring semesters, he makes the commute to Princeton, NJ from his Manhattan apartment. White's current lover of five years is Michael Carroll, a 35-year-old writer who has been published in gay anthologies like *Men On Men* and *Boys Like Us*.

An avid traveler, White has written two unique travel books, *States of Desire: Travels in Gay America* and *Our Paris*. After his summer book tour of the US, White will eagerly return to Paris for the launch of the French publication of *The Married Man*. Asked if he misses France, he responds wryly, "Yeah, especially the guys. They're hot!" ▼

Karr on porn

◀ page 97

when they get to fuck all the bottoms; it's absolutely sensational, a short course in big bang theory. The camera puts you right on Joe Stack's wide wang as it slams into Pierce's accommodating hole. Most striking about this video is its realism: these guys aren't acting. Also of note is the substantial release of this video's finale. Most leather and bondage movies don't always get there, to actual penetra-

tive sex, and it's appreciated here.

But that's the sort of attention Ward and Slater invest in their work, and why it's making such waves in the industry and among viewers. It presents extreme sexuality, in extremely handsome videos. In an upcoming column, I'll lead readers with more mainstream taste to the company's non-fetish release, *Sex Pack One*. If you're intrigued, there's a sneak preview of *Sex Pack Two*, with live performances by the stars, at the New Meat Campus Theatre on Saturday, June 24. ▼

Sleeps, which screened at the Castro on Monday night. Day, cast in a cameo role as a cigar-chomping patron of a San Francisco sex club, blows smoke on the film's beautiful young star. Filmmaker Hick and cast members were in the house for the premiere.

One of the highlights of the National Queer Arts Festival, Rosa von Praunheim's film *The Einstein of Sex* screens next Tuesday, June 27, 6:30 & 8:30 p.m., at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy in the Castro. Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld, the film's subject, founded the Institute of Sexual Science in 1920; the Nazis destroyed his life's work in 1933. For tickets, \$7, call 552-7709.

Einstein previously played the Castro in the Berlin & Beyond film fest, in January.

Press notes

Brief Harper's Index-style list: Number of pages the BAR devoted to coverage of SFILGFF 2000 over the past two weeks (two issues): 12

Number of pages festival sponsor LA-based media SF Frontiers devoted to coverage of SFILGFF 2000 over the past two weeks (one issue): 0 ▼



Photographer Greg Day, left, showing off his new tattoo (drawing by Mike Kuchar, inking by Maddog), Tima, center, and Eric Pigolet, right.

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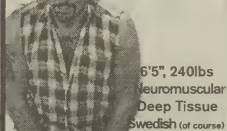
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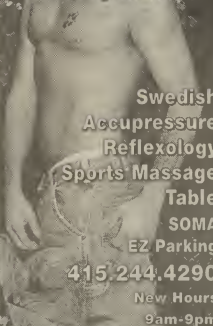
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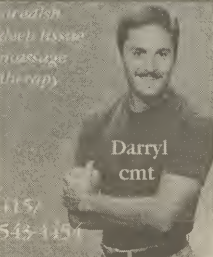
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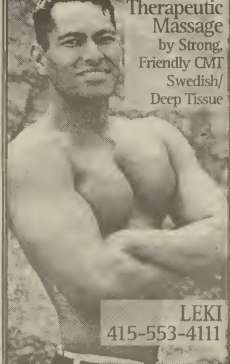
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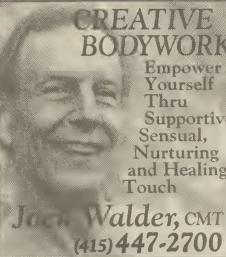
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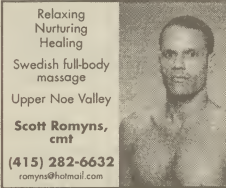
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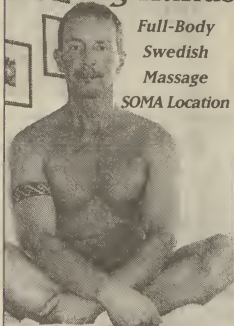
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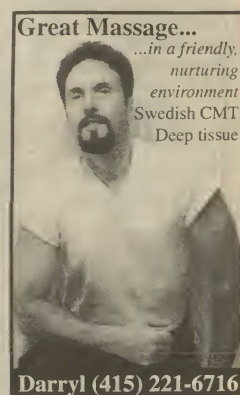
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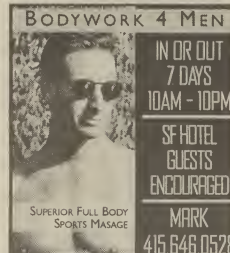


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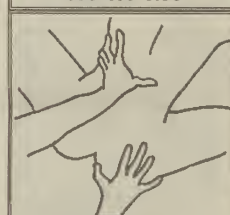


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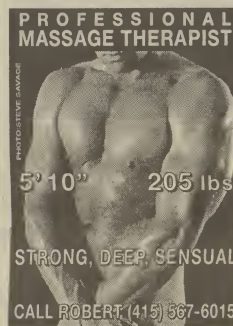


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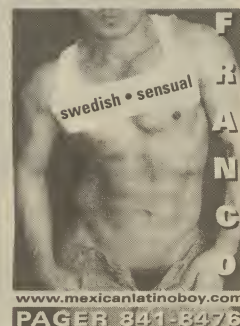
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FUN MASSAGE *24 HRS.

Full body massage
31yo runner
smooth great legs & abs
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Strong & sensual massage by
35yo muscle dude. 5'8", 175#
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Sensual, Swedish, full-body
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For a good time let this smooth
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PRIDES WELCOME!

Yes, warm sensual powerful hands.
Hot clean cut looks. Sculpted body.
A nice pride memory. Out- 210-2930

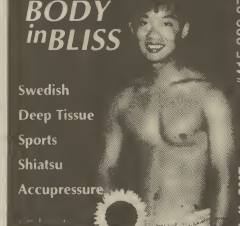
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Out only 934-1429 v.m. #2

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Therapeutic massage. Swedish-deep
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Sensual oil rub: nude, hot, relax
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Incredible massage by tall Texas
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Masculine nurturing, relaxed eroti-
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Excellent massage & much more by
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Cute, Smooth, Tender
26Y/O ASIAN
In/Out- \$60

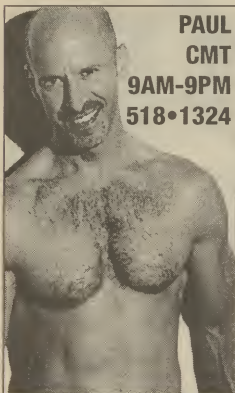
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Italian handsome masculine sexy
6'1", wellbuilt 180 friendly
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Light-skinned sexy 9"
"Quelque vraiment special pour le Caucasiens Male!"
Call: (415) 775-4771 24hrs

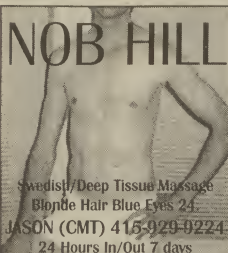
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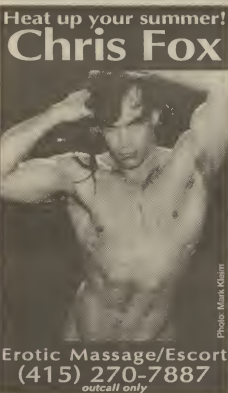
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9AM-9PM
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10am-11pm
MARIN/SF



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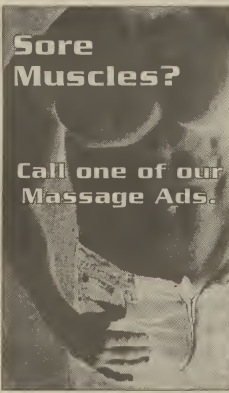
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Full Body
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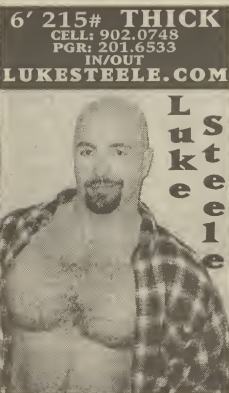
Sore Muscles?
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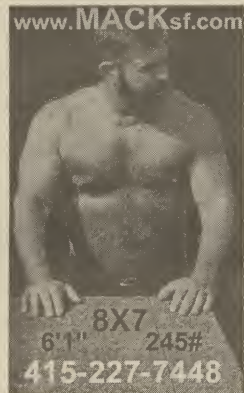
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6'2", 185, strong, gymtuned
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► SUPER HUNG ◄
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Sexy Jock with defined
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CULINE ITALIAN BEEFCAKE, COMPETITIVE
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6'1" 245#
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"GREAT KISSER!"
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HANDSOME BLUE-EYED MAN
w/thick hairy muscles 6', 215#
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21yo, 5'10", 160#, thick & uncut
HOT LATIN BOY
Tan, lean, hard and smooth body
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Affectionate. Passionate kisser.
Call Rick 415-264-8000 (cell) or
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Lean, athletic body- versatile
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and blowin my load. Also w/s. light b/d,
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Handsome, Expert Master
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Hairy pecs, big biceps, powerfull
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Handsome and sexy jock, Italian
6', 180lbs. Hung 8inches 10am-10pm
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Cute 32 6' 170 nice smile.
Friendly passionate intelligent
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32yo 5'8", toned furry tattooed
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Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs
Deep throat and young jock ass.
5'9", 155#s, 30" w, 8" 739-7312

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Wnts Srv 6'11", 235#, Allmscl, Hry
Vry Hot, 8x7 Hole Lover, Page 227-7448

Affectionate pleasure! Punkish
good looks! Versatile top*hung
mid2wild*ws/bd/ticklish*haury
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Hot,horny,handsome \$65in/\$85out

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Very discreet and friendly
clean slim built with boyish
looks and well endowed also
stays hard first timers
welcomed out only
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Midwest boy 29, 5'10", 160,
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*Bottom out in my sling** Solid
tight & muscular! 6'180 48yo. Like
uniforms? leather*?. Being hosed
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pro equipped w 8 1/2" & big beaut.
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8 1/2 uncut 5'10", 170# shvldd inked.
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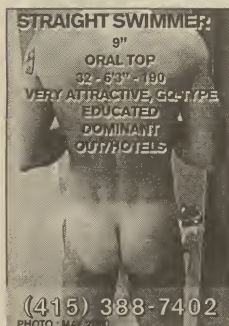
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24 GWM clean cut 6' slim fit
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190# hairy 46chs Top age 33
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By a nude hairy chested 26yo
Great massage. Full release, SF,
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9"
ORAL TOP
32-6'3"-190
VERY ATTRACTIVE GUY
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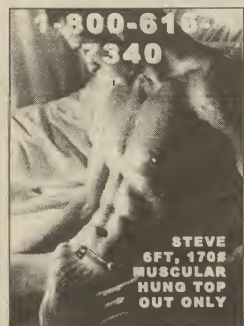
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Swim bld. Bub. Butt *560-6353

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Free - Spirit, Juicy, tantric - Joy
Satisfy your Desires. 25y 370 3307

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Unbelievably attractive & muscular
wants fun exciting kinky subs
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Tight lean bod hairy chest/legs
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6FT, 170#
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HUNG TOP
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One True Stud!

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6', 190#, 30w, 48c, 16a
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washboard abs
cut chest
big arms
friendly
respectful
educated
actual 8"
5'10, 160#
\$150/hr
excellent top
Jeff Ryan
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Dominant Leatherman
Bondage, SM, WS, 40yo, 6'1", 195#, Brown Hair, flat top, Blue Eyes, mustache, 7" Uncut, CBT, F/f, Fetish, Slave Training.



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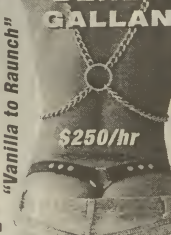
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Very Goodlooking Blond
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Big, Mature, No Problem!
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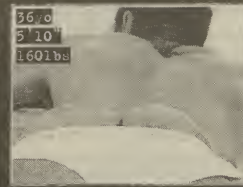
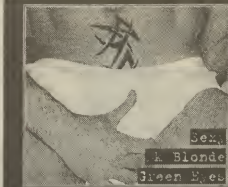
100% Versatile

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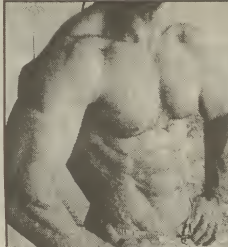
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Gd lking into bondage, s/m, w/s,
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Beginner? Have playspace & equip.
Scott(415)790-0902Pg# In or Out

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Ale, 242-4230, 24hrs. in/out

PRIDE SPECIAL!!
All-u-can-eat lean beef buffet...
Smooth defined hardbuilt & very hot!
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Horny 24yo pup! Pumped pecs, legs
bubble-ass; all shaved for you!
6ft 175lbs 7.5 cut w/trimmed bush!

5'10", 160 very fit body, nice tan!
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5'9", slim, Italian, sexy, passionate,
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or solo. *2 shvd heads goatees
available for trouble in/out 24h
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31.5'11", 160# 415-469-2990 sexy!
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HOT HORNY 21YO
739-9217/ \$100

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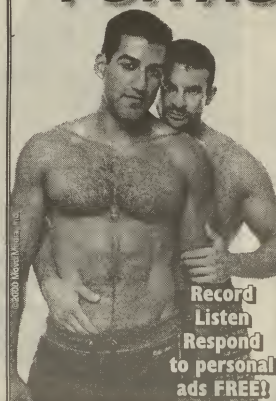
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